MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 DECEMBER 1981

Israel

Relations With U.S. -- YEDI'OT AHARONOT reported that U.S. and Israeli officials held a high-level meeting last week at which the United States promised to veto any UN Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Israel for applying Israeli law to the Golan Heights. The report added that the meeting paved the way for a resumption of the friendly dialogue between Israel and the United States.

According to Jerusalem radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Likud faction that authorized U.S. representatives have made it clear to Israel that no one in the U.S. administration thinks Israel must return to its 1967 borders. During a recent interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon accused the United States of wanting to push Israel back to the 1967 lines.

At a meeting between Foreign Minister Shamir and U.S. Senator Charles Percy in Jerusalem, "wide gaps" were revealed between U.S. and Israeli perceptions of Middle East events. Jerusalem radio's English service reported. However, an earlier report by the radio cited an Israeli official's description of the meeting as "very friendly." According to IDF radio, Shamir told Percy that U.S. policy toward Israel is decreasing the chance of other Arab countries joining the peace process.

Egypt

Mubarak Meets Israeli Envoy -- MENA reported that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sason, who delivered a message from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. According to Jerusalem radio, in the message Begin pledged that Israel will complete its withdrawal from the Sinai on schedule and explained Israel's reasons for passing the Golan Heights Law. Jerusalem radio later reported that during the meeting it was agreed that Mubarak will visit Israel in approximately 2 months.

Joint Defense Council Meetings -- The minutes of the 3-day meeting of the Egyptian-Sudanese Joint Defense Council meeting were signed in Cairo by Sudanese Vice President and Defense Minister Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil and Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim abu Ghazalah, Cairo radio reported. MENA quoted Khalil as stating that the council meetings had discussed all aspects of Egyptian-Sudanese military coordination.

As-Sadat Assassination Trial -- Cairo radio reported that during the 26 December session of the trial of those accused of assassinating the late President Anwar as-Sadat, a defense request to call certain witnesses was refused. The trial resumed on 28 December, MENA reported, and a defense lawyer argued that the charges are unconstitutional because they are contrary to Islamic law. His demand that the trial be postponed until he can plead the unconstitutionality of the charges before the supreme constitutional court was refused.

Syria

Damascus television reported that President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Syria from a tour of Arabian Peninsula countries during which he held talks characterized by fraternity and understanding. Before Al-Asad and his delegation left the PDRY, the last stop on the tour, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said his talks there confirmed the identity of views between the PDRY and Syria, both of whom stressed the importance of strengthening Arab solidarity, Aden radio reported.

Citing informed sources, AFP reported that Al-Asad plans to visit Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco soon. It also quoted Kuwaiti sources as stating that he is anxious to reconvene the Arab summit.

Citing a member of Al-Asad's delegation, SANA reported that he is to hold contacts with the Iranian leadership in the next few days to review the situation in the area and discuss bilateral relations.

Lebanon

Al-Wazzan Attacks U.S. -- During a speech broadcast by Beirut radio, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan strongly criticized U.S. policy in the Middle East for supporting Israel's "crimes" and refusing to help the Palestinians return to their homeland. He said the United States is to blame for increased Soviet influence in the area, because its policy has given the USSR the opportunity to "invade." He charged that because of U.S. support, Israel has become "insolent" even with the United States. Al-Wazzan asked the United States to "side with right" rather than help Israeli expansionism and aggression.

PLO

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that the PLO Central Council held a meeting in Damascus during which it reviewed the results of the Fes summit conference, expressed support for the Palestinian delegation's actions there and condemned Israel's application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights, the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement and the decision by some European countries to participate in the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers. It also reviewed the situation in Lebanon, stressing the importance of strengthening Palestinian-Syrian cohesion, and agreed on the importance of strenghtening the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, of promoting a Palestinian national unity plan and of developing constructive democratic dialogue within the PLO.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Negotiating Mission -- Tehran radio broadcast an interview with 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani after a 26 December meeting of Iran's Supreme Defense Council in which he noted that the council has "no objection" to receiving a nonaligned countries delegation attempting to mediate between Iran and Iraq. Baghdad radio's Azeri service broadcast a commentary applauding this statement and expressing the conviction that other Iranian officials will support it since the Iraqi-Iranian war serves neither the Iranian rulers nor Iranian citizens.

Velayati on Saudi-Iraqi Agreement -- During an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said that the border treaty signed by Iraq and Saudi Arabia last week is a sign that the Iraqi regime is "shaky or at the point of death." He asserted that Iraq had to negotiate from a position of weakness due to the "repeated defeats" it has suffered during its war with Iran. Velayati went on to say that the $20 billion Iraq has received from the Persian Gulf countries since the Iran-Iraq war began have not been able to protect it and will not prevent the downfall of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Iran

In a 28 December speech broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni urged all Iranians to obey the law and cooperate with rather than complain about each other. He reminded members of "Islamic associations" that, while they should carefully observe the behavior of those working in the government and armed forces, they must not "interfere" but only offer advice. Addressing other Islamic governments, Khomeyni stressed that they will remain subservient to the superpowers unless they unite. He deplored the opposition of these governments to Iran and claimed that if Muslim countries were united, Israel would be unable to act with impunity and continue its occupation of Arab territory.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL HOLDS MEETING 28-29 DEC

NC290828 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The PLO Central Council concluded its periodic meeting in Damascus at dawn today. The PLO Central Council held two working sessions yesterday in the morning and in the evening under Palestine National Council Chairman Brother Khalid al-Fahum and in the presence of Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee members, representatives of all the Palestinian revolution groups and popular unions, and sons of the Palestinian people from various areas.

The PLO Central Council heard a comprehensive report by Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar on the activities of the PLO Executive Committee and the results of his important visits to the PRC, the DPRK, Japan, Vietnam, the Soviet Union, Greece and Romania. The PLO Central Council highly evaluated the effect of these visits on the Palestinian cause and national struggle. The Central Council also reviewed the new developments in the stage following As-Sadat and the Fes summit.

The PLO Central Council emphasized its great evaluation of the struggle of the Egyptian Arab people and their national and progressive forces. The Egyptian people have proved their authentic affiliation with the Arab nation and their concern about their nation's national questions, particularly with regard to the Palestinian question and the continued resistance to the Camp David policy and the resulting Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

The PLO Central Council reviewed the results of the Fes summit and expressed its appreciation for the Palestinian delegation's stand at the Arab foreign ministers conference and the Fes summit. It stressed its adherence to the Palestine National Council's resolutions and the PLO's phased political program. The PLO Central Council affirmed that the Palestinian stand toward any initiative or solution must stem from the Palestine National Council resolutions and the political program.

The PLO Central Council condemned the Zionist enemy's resolution annexing the Golan Heights. It stressed that this resolution, adopted after the resolution annexing Jerusalem embodies the Zionist enemy's expansionist policy and his ambitions in the great Arab homeland. It stressed the need to pursue a decisive Arab policy in confronting the U.S. and Zionist schemes to control the Arab area and its resources, destroy the achievements of the Palestinian and Arab struggle, and liquidate the Arab-Zionist conflict in the interest of U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

The PLO Central Council reviewed the situation in fraternal Lebanon in light of the Zionist concentrations and threats against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese National Movement, and Syria. It stressed the importance of strengthening Palestinian-Syrian cohesion and their strategic relations as well as the solidarity with the Lebanese National Movement and the fraternal Lebanese people to repulse Zionist aggression in defense of Lebanon's Arabism, and unity of its people, territorial integrity and national independence, and to abort all plans to partition Lebanon engineered by the enemies of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

The PLO Central Council emphasized the need to strengthen the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and to confront all dangers and provocations to which the countries of this front are exposed. It also stressed the importance of strengthening joint Arab action and Arab solidarity to confront U.S. and Zionist policy and plans in the area.

The PLO Central Council condemned the strategic alliance between the United States and the Zionist eneity because it is aimed against all Arab countries and at imposing U.S. and Israeli domination throughout the Arab homeland.

The PLO Central Council expressed its concern and condemnation of the European trend toward participation in the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] in Sinai because this constitutes a European involvement in the Camp David accords and a violation of Egyptian national policy.

The PLO Central Council expressed its deep satisfaction with the development of Palestinian relations with the friendly Soviet Union and the socialist countries. This constitutes an important guarantee to strengthen our people's struggle against the Zionist occupation and U.S.-Zionist plans.

The PLO Central Council reviewed the situation in the occupied homeland in light of the heroic uprising of our steadfast Palestinian people to confront the occupation, the autonomy plot and the enemy's plan to impose civil administration in order to perpetuate his occupation throughout the Palestinian land.

The PLO Central Council emphasized the importance of supporting the steadfastness of our people in the occupied land, cementing national unity in their ranks, and directing all their efforts to resist occupation and the liquidation plans. It expressed its great pride in the courageous popular uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that has continued in all cities, villages and camps of our occupied homeland for 2 months. By their heroic resistance, our people have emphasized their firm determination to foil the civil administration plan and to adhere to their inalienable national rights.

A spirit of constructive dialogue and complete democracy prevailed in the PLO Central Council's discussions. All the conferees agreed on the importance of promoting the Palestinian national unity formula and developing a constructive democratic dialogue through the PLO establishments, primarily the Executive Committee and the Central Council. The PLO Central Council has adopted several resolutions to this regard in affirmation of the Palestine National Council resolutions.

'ARAFAT REFUTES CLAIMS OF U.S.-ISRAELI CONFLICT

JN281814 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] A ceremony was held in Damascus today on completion the second stage of the educational village construction project for the families of the Palestinian strugglers and martyrs in the 'Adhra' area.

The ceremony was attended by Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]; Brother Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council; several PLO Executive Committee members; Maj Gen 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Khulayfawi, in his capacity as the Syrian Government's representative; the ambassadors of Arab and friendly states accredited to Damascus; and a large gathering of the revolution's cadres and sons of the Palestinian people.

Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar delivered a speech in which he refuted claims of the existence of Israeli-U.S. differences, adding that such maneuvers do not deceive the revolution since the deformed entity, which is dependent on the United States for its daily existence, cannot make its own decisions.

The brother commander said what is going on now is a mere realignment of roles in order to cover up the aggressive goals of Israel, which is threatening to launch widescale aggression against southern Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar lauded the Palestinian-Syrian cohesion, saying: We in the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces are fighting alongside the Syrian eagles not only to defend Palestine, Lebanon and Syria but also to defend our Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf so that the new Tartars and Franks will not invade this region as they dream of doing.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added: It is no coincidence that the Fes summit failed, that the EEC said nothing on the Middle East except to repeat what Cheysson said in Israel and finally that the Golan was annexed after Jerusalem.

In conclusion, Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar asserted that the Zionist enemy is currently concentrating its forces in the northern part of occupied Palestine, thus preparing for a wide-scale operation against southern Lebanon in order to deter the Palestinians and Syrians. He added: I tell them on behalf of the Palestinian fighters that they cannot even pass over our dead bodies since this revolution has passed the barrier of illusions and fear. We are not afraid. Time will tell who the winner will be.

FATAH GENERAL VIEWS OPERATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

LD271310 Kuwait KUNA in English 1153 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Dec (KUNA) -- A Palestinian military commander Sunday disclosed that the Palestinian resistance is seeking to obtain advanced armament that would at least inflict losses on the Israeli enemy similar to the damage Israel causes to the Palestinian side.

In a statement to AL QABAS newspaper, member of Fatah General Committee and head of the Palestinian resistance central military operations room Brig Sa'd Sayil, said that the Palestinian resistance had seriously begun to consider obtaining advanced weapons, which are soon to be received, following the Israeli two-week aggression against south Lebanon last July.

The Palestinian revolution is considering and planning escalation of military commando operations in the occupied Arab territories, the Palestinian leader said.

He added that those operations would be "qualitatively advanced" despite all the Israeli obstacles and oppression practiced against the Palestinian Arabs under the occupation.

Sayil pointed out the importance of opening the Arab borders with Israel for Palestinian commando operations, a measure he described as decisive in securing the continuation and escalation of commando attacks in the occupied Arab territories.

Israel tried to create disparity between the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese citizens by its two-week war, but it failed, Sayil said.

He explained that after Israel cut off the roads in south Lebanon, a crisis emerged on how to market the agricultural produce of the Lebanese farmers. So the Palestinian resistance bought all the harvest of that season and distributed it to the inflicted Arabs. Thus, he said, the Lebanese farmer did not lose and the Lebanese-Palestinian solidarity was preserved.

Brig Sayil disclosed that the equation was changed in the July war and the Israeli Army which used to win all the battles it entered, had failed this time in achieving its objectives despite the advanced arms and heavy fire it used against the civilians of south Lebanon and Beirut.

The ceasefire was arranged by the United Nations through a message sent to the Palestine Liberation Organisation by the UN secretary general who called on the PLO to accept cease-fire in preservation of world peace and for humanitarian reasons, Sayil said.

VOP: 'ZIONISTS' HOLD BORDER MANEUVERS 24 DEC

NC251220 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Dec 81

[Text] According to reports received from the occupied border area, the Zionist occupation forces yesterday carried out maneuvers with live ammunition near the Lebanese border. Infantry, artillery and tank forces participated in these maneuvers. In participation with the clique of traitor Haddad, the Zionist occupation forces carried out similar maneuvers in the occupied Al-Khiyam township.

The Zionist-isolationist forces intensified their acts of suppression in the occupied border area. It has been reported that some inhabitants of Bint Jubayl and 'Ayta ash-Sha'b have been taken to the militia prison in 'Aynata township on the pretext that their sons have connections with the joint forces.

PALESTINIANS VISIT GRAVES OF IDF SOLDIERS

NC271117 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Hebrew 1215 GMT 25 Dec 81

[Text] The day before yesterday a delegation of the social affairs organization of the Palestinian revolution visited the burial place of the four Israeli soldiers killed in southern Lebanon in 1978. The Palestinian delegation laid a wreath on the grave. A Palestinian priest read verses from the Bible and asked for mercy on their souls.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO SOMALIA -- An agreement was signed today between the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund and Somalia for a loan of 5 billion Kuwaiti dinars to finance the second water project in Mogadishu. The agreement was signed by Somali Ambassador to Kuwait Ali Haji Hashi and Director General of the Fund and Chairman of the Board of Directors Muhammad al-'Amari. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1157 GMT 26 Dec 81 GF]

IRAQI OIL FOR YAR -- According to an agreement signed today in Jidda, the Islamic Bank for Development will import refined petroleum products from Iraq for the YAR worth $10 million. The agreement was signed by Islamic Development Bank President Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali, Director of the Petroleum and Natural Resources General Institute 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Makhlafi and Director of the Yemeni Petroleum Company 'Adil Khurshid. [Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Dec 81 GF]

KUWAIT

MINISTER OUTLINES TALKS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT

LD271424 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1353 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Dec (KUNA) -- Kuwaiti Acting Minister of State for Cabinet affairs Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Awadhi said today that last week's talks between Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war.

In a statement issued after the weekly Kuwaiti Cabinet meeting, he added: "There was a Kuwaiti-Syrian agreement to call for efforts to stop this war and on the need to adopt measures and provide opportunities to end this war, because its continuation is not in the interests of the two warring countries and is not in the interests of any state of the region."

The minister called for the "marshalling of Arab and Islamic efforts to end this destructive war." He added that the talks between Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad and President al-Asad, who is touring a number of Arab countries, dealt with the topic of convening a meeting of Arab foreign ministers to prepare for the forthcoming Arab summit. The date of this meeting has not been fixed and will be left to the contacts to be made by Arab League General Secretary Chadli Klibi, who will visit Kuwait at a time which has not yet been fixed.

He said: "The Arab nation is going through a very critical period and good preparations for the summit are needed so as not to suffer the same fate as the previous one."

FRENCH MINISTER CHEYSSON TO VISIT 9 JAN

LD281438 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1209 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Dec (KUNA) -- Kuwait, 28 Dec (KUNA) -- It was mentioned here today that French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson will visit this Arab Gulf country on 9 January.

Kuwait Ambassador to France 'Isa al-Hamad told KUNA that during his 2-day visit Cheysson will hold talks with Kuwait Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Sabah Ahmad as-Sabah. The talks will concern the Middle East crisis developments and the new French attitude toward it. He added that the discussions will also deal with bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.

OMAN

MUSCAT COMMENTS ON SOVIET NAVAL THREAT

EA222330 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1320 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Mamduh Isma'il commentary: "Under the Spotlight"]

[Text] At the closing session of the first summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council in Abu Dhabi, His Majesty Sultan Qabus delivered a speech in which he said: We stress the need to concentrate on maintaining our region's security and stability if we wish to provide the proper atmosphere for our countries.

These sublime words were uttered by his majesty -- God preserve him -- about 6 months ago on the basis of the experience of the region's states whose security and stability are threatened and whose people's efforts to forge ahead to catch up with the modern world are obstructed.

The picture was complete and clear to Oman's guide and mentor. The USSR has a major fleet at the entrance to the Gulf and in the Indian Ocean, including the aircraft carrier Minsk, (?Tinka) cruisers, (?Tritat) destroyers and submarines. The aims of this Soviet naval buildup were made clear in statements by Soviet Admiral (Boritov) when he said: The mobility of this fleet allows it to operate in a limited crisis near a maritime state where it can make a shore landing. We all know the geographic fact that the Gulf states have extensive coasts. This means the presence of the Soviet fleet is a direct threat to the region's states.

The wise Omani leader therefore realized that the puppets -- set up by the Soviets and supplied with the most modern military equipment -- in South Yemen, Ethiopia and Afghanistan are aimed at sapping energy [as heard]. They are also advanced Soviet positions to be used when the need arises. The Soviet submarine base in Aden and the electronic control base in Socotra, as well as the Khormaksar airbase, are not there simply because of Aden's deliberate and contrived hostility toward the sultanate.

Mediation efforts could have succeeded in halting the conflict years ago, but this would have contradicted the Soviet strategy to use those bases against the entire Gulf and Arab peninsula. They would also contradict Brezhnev's statement in which he said: It is the Soviets' duty to help communism survive and continue; only then will it succeed in gaining footholds and consolidating its foundations. Reconciliation robs the Soviets of any pretext of justifying their military presence in South Yemen and around the Gulf. Everyone knows there is a Soviet airborne division stationed in the Caucasus near Iran's borders. This is not the division that is in Afghanistan.

All the Soviets need are hotbeds of tension and an unstable security situation in and around the Gulf region as a pretext for interference.

You may ask: Why should the Soviets direct their attention to the Gulf and the peninsula? The reply to this has been given by news agencies which said the USSR informed an allied state, namely Czechoslovakia, that it was going to reduce the quantity of oil sent to it and that this reduction would affect the rest of the Warsaw Pact countries. This means Soviet oil sources are being exhausted. But what is important to the USSR is its desire to cut off oil supplies to the West from the Gulf so that industrial life there is stopped. This is not an invention of ours but is mentioned in the military encyclopedia of the Soviet Armed Forces published between 1971-75.

Another danger to the region is the continuing Iraq-Iran war and the tension it creates in the Gulf. The fact that the flaming tongues of this war have reached other states in the region [words indistinct] the fears of the sultanate from the effects of this ongoing war in this sensitive area. The sultanate is not only fighting atheism but also extremism and fanaticism.

Oman realizes that extremism is a threat to the stability and security of the region. The exposure of the sabotage conspiracy in the fraternal state of Bahrain and the confirmation that it was aimed at the other Arab states of the Gulf impelled Oman to concentrate all its attention on the fact that Gulf security should be among the Gulf Cooperation Council's priorities.

Now other voices in the region have joined the loyal and committed voice of Oman in demanding the achievement of joint security. Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi interior minister, is calling for more Gulf Cooperation Council security cooperation so as to cancel opportunities for sabotage. Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah, the Bahrain interior minister, is also asking the Gulf Cooperation Council to form a rapid deployment force to provide urgent assistance in case of need.

It is now expected that the forthcoming meeting of Gulf Cooperation Council defense and interior ministers will yield decisive and tangible results [words indistinct] and will produce plans whose practical, visible and urgent implementation will ensure regional security against external threats, as well as [word indistinct] infiltration of the red terror network and blind extremism.

As the eastern part of the Arab homeland complements the western part, so Gulf security complements Arab security. Arab solidarity from the ocean to the Gulf is the only basis for Arab security. We do not exaggerate, therefore, when we say the USSR, as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is playing a wicked role of obstructing Arab solidarity. By focusing on South Yemen, Libya and others, the USSR is attempting to halt any sincere Arab effort toward solving the conflict, which is what happened at the Fes summit.

It is a popular saying that politics are affected by time and circumstances and affect the formulation of any decision. In confirmation of this came Saudi eagerness for Prince Fahd's initiative to solve the Middle East conflict. The initiative was founded on strict integrity and its eight points were finely balanced, as could be seen by the international response to the initiative. The initiative was timed to heal Arab differences; the differences were transformed into an Arab political will with one viewpoint and one stand to rally around the initiative. The initiative was also made because of the absence of the military option in the Arab arena and as a reply to venomous propaganda about Arab divisiveness.

The initiative was an incentive for the (?Muslim) groups, which saw in the eight points a call for an honorable peace through ending the war. War is of no interest to a world full of burning problems that have almost succeeded in blotting out the Middle East problems. But the Soviets were making moves to impose Soviet participation on the Arabs and that is why it hastened to empty the Saudi initiative of its true content. This was followed by the Israeli response of annexing the Golan Heights, so now there is another Arab problem brought about by the Soviets which must be solved before dealing with the main Middle East problem.

It is in the light of this that his majesty the sultan confirmed that the Arab problems of nationalism and destiny will not find solutions as long as the USSR continues its interference in Arab states. The USSR is a divisive factor. It has failed since the 1967 aggression to prove, as a superpower, its ability to stop aggression against the Arabs.

Most of the Arab states are today convinced the USSR is insistent on prolonging this conflict and is the cause of its complications. It is certain that the Soviets will not give the Arabs weapons that can strike Israeli military arrogance and will not involve itself militarily for the sake of the Arabs even though it is linked to some by friendship treaties, because in everything it does, it is only governed by its own interests.

The Soviets know very well that the Arabs' national cause is a joint one, and for this reason they want to drag the Gulf region into the vicious circle of the Middle East problem. Perhaps they will succeed where their agents in the region have failed.

The sole force now capable of involvement in the Arab problem, that is, bringing the Arabs together, is the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. It is logical that the correct start should be the Saudi peace initiative, bearing in mind that it is an Arab initiative without an alternative in the near future. The Arabs should put it forward and profit by the clear and real difference between Washington and Tel Aviv. The GCC must stress its political and economic weight both in the Arab world and internationally. The right road needs no one to light it because it is bright by its nature.

Time is not moving in the interests of the Arabs. Enough has been lost over the years. Bitterness is still in the [word indistinct] because the Arabs refuse, and, after a time they accept that which they had refused before. What is required now is the liberation of the Arab will from Soviet (?control). The Arabs should regain their amity, strength and dignity.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER RETURNS FROM PAKISTAN

LD231014 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0940 GMT 23 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Dec (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, returned to Riyadh before noon today from abroad. He made an official visit to Pakistan on 3 December at the intivation of Pakistani President Gen Ziaul Haq. He had talks with President Ziaul Haq and senior Pakistani officials on bilateral relations and means of strengthening them, on the prospects of cooperation between the Saudi and Pakistani defense ministries and on issues of common concern. His royal highness also visited the Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan.

CROWN PRINCE FAHD TOURS EASTERN REGION

GF272009 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received -- in the presence of Prince 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn Julwi, the amir of the eastern region -- senior officials of the eastern region who attended a luncheon with his highness.

Prince Fahd began his visit to the eastern region last Wednesday. He began his visit by attending the graduation ceremony of the first group of doctors at the Faculty of Medicine and Medical Sciences of King Faysal University.

Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd has, as is his custom, set the example in implementing the directives of King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on seizing every opportunity available to officials to inspect all state projects throughout the country.

In a statement to SPA the information minister said Prince Fahd was very anxious to personally take part in the graduation ceremony of the first group of doctors at King Faysal University. Yamani said Prince Fahd seized the opportunity of being in the eastern region to go on a swift and comprehensive tour of the area, which included the inspection of several educational, health, industrial, agricultural, water, electricity, road, municipality, mosque and transport projects and charity activities. He also inspected projects of the King Faysal and the Petroleum and Mines Universities, the Information Ministry projects in the region and radio and television transmission and relay stations.

The information minister said that at the conclusion of his tour Prince Fahd expressed admiration for what he say in the installations he visited, appreciation of the efforts that are being exerted in all fields to provide citizens with the necessary services, and confidence that those who are in charge of and those who are working in these services are fully aware of their mission and their responsibilities toward their country and citizens. Prince Fahd also expressed full confidence in the ability of the zealous and national elements to administer and operate the most complex equipment and projects, one of which he inspected during his tour.

RADIO VIEWS U.S. REACTION TO GOLAN ANNEXATION

LD251628 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Dec 81

[Text] After recent communications between Saudi Arabia and the United States, His Highness Prince Fahd and U.S. President Reagan agreed to postpone the 14-20 January visit of his highness to the United States.

This postponement comes in the wake of numerous international events. The United States has made two encouraging moves since Israel's announcement of its annexation of the Arab Golan Heights. One of them is its support for the UN Security Council resolution denouncing and condemning the Israeli measure and calling upon Israel to retract it, and the other is its suspension of the strategic agreement with Israel and its allusions to other pressure and measures to make Israel retreat.

While endorsing the Security Council resolution, the United States has decided to wait until the date fixed by the council -- 5 January -- in order to give Israel the opportunity to reconsider its decision. The entire international community is now waiting for the council's sanctions and for the steps that the United States will take both inside and outside of the Security Council in light of the Israeli revocation of the strategic cooperation agreement [words indistinct] and after Menahem Begin's government came close to falling but survived a no-confidence vote.

Those events require that there should be enough time for all the parties concerned to understand clearly and thoroughly the end results and reactions before making any decisions. We in Saudi Arabia believe on the one hand that the whole world is about to enter a new stage leading the international community and the international family to more dangers, and we also believe that the opportunities for an about-face are limited. On the other hand, a meeting between Saudi Arabia and the United States is bound to serve the issues of regional peace.

The Arab foreign ministers, who were expected to meet a few days ago, decided to postpone their meeting until after the Security Council and other parties have been given the opportunity to define their stands in a way making it possible for them to be dealt with at the Arab level from a position of historic responsibility and pride in pan-Arabism. The international community needs time to understand the extent of the danger resulting from this situation, especially given the possibility of Israel embarking on new adventures. All those events and interactions demand contemplation and scrutiny if they are to lead to more positive results. While Saudi Arabia hopes this will be accomplished, it maintains that any moves it initiates must guarantee the Arab nation its rights and provide all opportunities for regional peace.

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINK WITH QATAR -- Jidda, 20 Dec [WAKH] -- It was announced in Jidda today that it has been agreed to establish a direct telecommunications link via satellite between Saudi Arabia and Qatar. The Qatari meteorological authority will request and hire this line, which will be linked with the Saudi meteorological authority's computer and will be used to transmit information on the weather and exchange weather maps. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Dec GF]

NEW MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR -- Riyadh, 15 Oct (SPA) -- His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Ab al-'Aziz today received in his office here credentials of new Moroccan ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Dr Zayn al-Abidin El Alaqui. The presenting of credential ceremony was attended by Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the deputy premier. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1225 GMT 15 Dec 81 LD]

UAE

HEIR APPARENT RETURNS FROM ALGERIA 27 DEC

GF272024 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1832 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 27 Dec (WAKH) -- Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the armed forces, returned to Abu Dhabi from Algiers today, accompanied by Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, the ruler's representative in the eastern region and chairman of the board of directors of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, at the end of a visit to Algeria that lasted several days.

KHALEEJ TIMES REPORTS DECLINE IN OIL EXPORTS

GF231130 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 23 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Abu Dhabi-Dubai oil exports in the third quarter of the current year dropped by about 17.13 percent in volume compared to the same period last year, according to figures released by the UAE Central Bank in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

This was explained mainly by a corresponding drop of about 14 percent in the total production of the two major oil-producing emirates.

The bank figures show that the Abu Dhabi exports decreased from 118,692,000 barrels in the third quarter of last year to 91,021,000 barrels in the same period this year -- a decline of 23.3 percent. However, increasing from 33,280,000 barrels in the third quarter of 1980 to 34,924,000 barrels in the third quarter of the current year, Dubai exports went up by 4.94 percent.

With the exception of Amerada Hess, whose exports went up from 1,151,000 barrels to 1,811,000 during the months under review, all other companies in Abu Dhabi experienced declines in their exports.

The Abu Dhabi Company for Onshore Operations (ADCO) was, however, affected most. Exporting 20,766,000 barrels less, it went down by 33.18 percent, while those of ADMA, ADDC and Abu Bukush were dropped by 13.86, 17.6 and 11.62 percent, respectively.

On the production side, the decline in Abu Dhabi was close to 18.2 percent. The companies' percentage figures are: ADCO 22.76, ADMA 12.34, ADDC 3.28, Abu Bukush 13.94 and Amerada Hess 37.61.

In sharp contrast to the situation in Abu Dhabi, Dubai Petroleum Company enjoyed a 2.4 percent rise.

This downward trend continued through the first stages of the year. In the first quarter, roughly 9.73 percent and 7.31 percent decline was registered in exports and production, respectively.

The bank did not give Ash-Shariqah's position.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO PAKISTAN -- The Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund has granted a loan of $25 million to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan according to an agreement that was signed between them today regarding the construction of Tarbela Dam. [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1252 GMT 16 Dec 81 GF]

LABOR ACCORD WITH MOROCCO -- A 4-year automatically renewable labor cooperation agreement was signed by the UAE and Morocco in Abu Dhabi today. The agreement will provide for organizing and facilitating the employment of Moroccan laborers in the UAE and also for the exchange of information with respect to the labor market in the UAE and the quality of manpower in Morocco. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1804 GMT 22 Dec 81 GF]

GOVERNMENT EXPENSES -- The UAE spent 13.74 billion dirhams during the first 9 months of 1981. Central Bank statistics have shown that out of this total figure, government ministries spent 10.48 billion dirhams. Development expenditures totalled 718 million dirhams, while loans representing unallocated credits to ministries reached 2.54 million dirhams. [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1307 GMT 18 Dec 81 GF]

PDRY

SYRIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FROM SAN'A' 27 DEC

JN271140 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Aden -- His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and his delegation arrived in Aden this morning on a visit to the PDRY as part of his current tour of Gulf countries and the Arabian peninsula.

He was welcomed on arrival at Aden Airport by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium.

Makes Press Statement

JN272016 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Aden -- Official talks began in Aden this evening between Syrian officials led by President Hafiz al-Asad and PDRY officials led by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Upon arrival at the presidential palace, President Hafiz al-Asad made a statement to the PDRY media in which he said: I must first convey the greetings of the Syrian political leadership to Brother President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the PDRY political leadership. This is my first visit to the PDRY and my presence in this fraternal country overwhelms me with pleasure and happiness, especially when I see these great and good people welcoming us in this manner. I saw old and young, men and women welcoming us. Undoubtedly, this is a sincere manifestation of the respect and love harbored by the PDRY people for the Syrian people. I would like to affirm that the Syrian people harbor the same feelings for the PDRY people. On this occasion, I would like to assert that the trust between me and Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and between the Syrian and PDRY leaderships is the best that we could hope for. This trust is as it should be and meets the demands of the people in the two countries. Again I say that I am pleased and I send my heartfelt greetings to the people in Aden and in the PDRY districts and provinces.

Official Talks Held

EA272006 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Official talks between a Democratic Yemen delegation led by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and a Syrian delegation led by President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and president of Syria, began at 1800 today at the Supreme People's Council in Aden.

The Yemeni delegation includes Brother 'Ali Antar, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and local government minister; Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, Central Committee member and foreign minister; Brother Shafil Umar 'Ali, deputy foreign minister; and Brother 'Abd al-Wahid Fari, director of the Foreign Ministry's Arab Homeland Department. The Syrian delegation includes Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

In the first round of talks, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad welcomed Brother Hafiz al-Asad and his delegation. In the name of our party and people he expressed his satisfaction at the visit, which comes at a time of difficulty for the Arab region. The two sides also reviewed current developments in the Arab region and particularly the Middle East. There was also a review of bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries, parties and peoples.

During the talks, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed Democratic Yemen's views on the aggressive acts, moves and provocations of imperialist and reactionary circles against the peoples in the region. He pointed out that the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel, that is between imperialism and Zionism, has existed for a long time on the basis of hostility to the Arab nation. One of its manifestations was the U.S. military exercises aimed at terrorizing and provoking the Arab peoples, and another was the annexation of the occupied Arab Syrian Golan Heights.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed the PDRY's support, with all its modest resources, for the Syrian people to increase its steadfastness against the Zionist enemy and consolidate cohesiveness with the Palestinian people. He hailed Syria's firm and principled position on capitulatory schemes and its resistance to all the hostile circumstances facing it. He also hailed Syria's brave attempts to destroy the dens of reactionary gangs which carry out acts of sabotage inside Syria.

Brother Hafiz al-Asad gave his assessment of the developing situation in the Arab region and pointed out the importance of strengthening Arab solidarity and the unity of the Arab ranks of the basis of hostility to imperialism and Zionism and the recovery of the Arab peoples' just and legitimate rights. He stressed that Syria will maintain its firm and principled stand to resist the Zionist enemy and continue the struggle with the Arab masses to recover legitimate Arab rights. He hailed Democratic Yemen's stand in this respect.

In their talks the two sides touched on the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and stressed the importance of strengthening it and reactivating the effective role of its institutions as it represents the Arab peoples' conscience and honor, opposed to imperialism and Zionism.

The talks are continuing.

Talks End; Syrians Depart

EA281948 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Brother Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and president of fraternal Syria, and his delegation left Aden at 1600 today. They were in Democratic Yemen on a 1-day friendly and official visit.

Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, made a press statement before the Syrian president's departure from the PDRY. He pointed out that the Yemeni and Syrian delegations discussed bilateral relations and resistance to imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and confirmed that the two sides' point of view concurred.

Official talks between the Yemeni delegation led by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP Central Committee secretary general, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and chairman of the Council of Minister, and the Syrian delegation led by Brother Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, ended this afternoon.

During the talks there was a review of the Arab and international situation, which was characterized by the two countries' common stands. They also reviewed future political moves by the two fraternal countries on pressing matters.

The talks also dealt with bilateral relations between Democratic Yemen and the Syrian Arab Republic. The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the development of these relations and stressed that they will work to strengthen them further.

LEADER DEFENDS COOPERATION WITH SOVIET UNION

EA242144 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and of the Council of Ministers, said relations between our country and the Soviet Union are longstanding and based on fruitful cooperation, mutual respect, firm, principled Soviet stands alongside the struggle of our Yemeni people and Arab peoples and support for our causes and legitimate Arab rights. He pointed out in this respect that nobody can conceal this, even those who are most extreme in their hostility to the Soviets.

In a press interview with AL-WAHDAH newspaper, published in Abu Dhabi, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad touched on reports by some information organs hostile to our people and revolution on Soviet obtainment of a military base in Socotra. He explained in this respect that Democratic Yemen asked for a summit to discuss the issue of the elimination of military bases in the region and to make it a zone of security and peace. He pointed out that this stand by our country was not received enthusiastically by some of those on whose territories military bases and American rapid intervention forces are deployed. The brother secretary general emphasized that the aim of publishing false allegations about a Soviet military presence in Aden is to prepare for a large-scale American military presence in their countries and justify their acceptance of this presence.

Scores U.S. Military Activity

LD241840 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and of the Council of Ministers, has stressed that all forms of U.S. military presence, both stationary and mobile, on Arab territories come under the imperialist forces' activity to restore our countries to the fold of the colonialist hegemony by means of new more flexible (?facades) than in the past.

In an interview with AL-WAHDAH newspaper, published in Abu Dhabi in the UAE, he said that the maneuvers in Egypt, Oman and Somalia are merely steps to link the armies to these countries to the U.S. administration, which is playing a colonialist role in our Arab countries.

Brother Ali Nasir Muhammad explained that the linking of these Arab armies to the United States gives the new military alliance between the United States and Israel great possibilities and opportunities to reinforce their hegemony over the resources of our Arab peoples and to extend the colonialist hegemony over them. He pointed out, in this respect, that whoever stages joint maneuvers with the United States cannot stand against the Israeli-U.S. alliance; rather he will support it.

BRIEFS

PDRY-SRV NEWS AGREEMENT -- An agreement was signed this morning in the ADEN NEWS AGENCY building on cooperation between the ADEN NEWS AGENCY and the news agency of Socialist Vietnam. The agreement comprises the exchange of bulletins by radio and telex, their use, their distribution to various information organs, assistance to correspondents of the two agencies, the exchange of press and technical delegations and the exchange and development of professional and technical coopeation. [Text] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Dec 81 EA]

SUDANESE JOINT DEFENSE COUNCIL MINUTES SIGNED

NC281349 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] The minutes of the meeting of the Egyptian-Sudanese Joint Defense Council were signed at the Defense Ministry today. They were signed on the Sudanese side by Vice President and Defense Minister Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil and on the Egyptian side by Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah.

Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil stated that the talks between the two delegations took place within the framework of the efforts for military cooperation between the two fraternal countries and within the framework of the political, economic and social integration. The agreements between the two countries in the military sphere, he said, are just to confront any eventuality. He said that there is a strategy between Egypt and Sudan for peaceful coexistence.

The Sudanese Vice President and Defense Minister said that the minutes which were signed today are tantamount to a defense agreement and not an agreement for offensive and expansionist purposes. He pointed out that joint training exercises between Egypt and Sudan are held on a regular basis in order to benefit from each other's experience.

Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah stated that the joint training exercises between Egypt and Sudan are considered important because Egypt constitutes Sudan's depth and because Sudan is Egypt's depth. What took place during the discussions, he said, was within the framework of joint defense. He said that he will pay a visit to Sudan on 18 January for military talks.

The defense minister said that in the sphere of armament, there is a plan and a framework for both countries which are proceeding according to a specific policy. He said that the military plants and the Arab military industries organization are supplying our needs and the needs of any fraternal Arab state, including Sudan.

GHALI EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR CHADIAN GOVERNMENT

NC281609 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Dec (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that Egypt hopes that national reconciliation will be achieved among all sides in Chad. He said that Egypt supports both the government of Goukouni Oueddei and the dispatch of African forces to Chad to restore normalcy.

In a statement he made today Dr Ghali added that Egypt and Sudan are coordinating their position regarding the restoration of diplomatic relations with the Government of Chad. He said that Goukouni Oueddei will visit Sudan in the coming few weeks to bolster the relations between Sudan and Chad.

GHALI SAYS PEACE WITH ISRAEL 'IRREVERSIBLE'

NC290618 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that peace between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Israel is irreversible. He stressed that the way to expand and establish this peace is for the United States and Israel to take action to resolve the Palestinian autonomy problem. He pointed out that the key to the issue is in the hands of the United States, which is a full partner in the talks. He said that a solution to the Palestinian question will create a real change throughout the Middle East.

Ghali stressed that the moderate Arab countries, such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan, pin great importance on solving the Palestinian autonomy issue. He said that these countries are ready to exert great efforts in return for any Israeli efforts to solve the Palestinian issue.

MUBARAK RECEIVES ISRAELI ENVOY SASON 28 DEC

NC281119 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Dec (MENA) -- This morning President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the Israeli ambassador in Cairo, Moshe Sason, in the Al-'Urubah Palace. The meeting lasted about 30 minutes. Following the meeting, the Israeli ambassador said that he handed President Mubarak a written reply from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. He said: We held lengthy and friendly talks and discussed the message. He described the seven-page message as long and friendly, adding: I cannot disclose its contents because it is addressed from the prime minister to the president of the republic.

MUBARAK RECEIVES ENVOY TO ISRAEL 29 DEC

NC291042 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada at the Al-'Urubah Palace today.

After the meeting, Murtada said that all the arrangements related to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the remaining part of Sinai will be completed on schedule.

He said that during the meeting he received directives from President Mubarak prior to his departure Wednesday for his post in Israel. He said these directives pertain to Egypt's current policy and Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Replying to a question on the completion of the arrangements related to President Mubarak's visit to Israel and the date of the visit, Murtada said the arrangements for the visit were not discussed during the meeting and the date of the visit has been left to the president.

Replying to a question on whether the reply which was sent by Begin with the Israel ambassador was discussed, he said President Mubarak received the reply yesterday and is still studying it.

Replying to a question on President Mubarak's comments on Begin's reply, Murtada said there were no comments on the reply by his excellency the president during the meeting.

ROSE AL-YUSUF ON ISRAELI 'TRAP' FOR U.S.

PM281040 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 21 Dec 81 p 17

[Philip Jallab article: "The Double Trap Into Which the United States Fell"]

[Text] Quoting a well-informed U.S. source, the reputable U.S. newspaper Los Angeles TIMES said that "Israeli intelligence is the main source" of information which the United States has recently been repeating about a "Libyan assassination squad" said to have been sent to the United States to assassinate some U.S. officials.

The well-informed source told the newspaper that he believes that, via such information, Israel is preparing U.S. public opinion for a future strike against Libya. ASSOCIATED PRESS reported the story 12 December, quoting the newspaper.

Apparently nobody imagined that the United States would fall for the "double trap" laid for it by Israeli intelligence. The United States always stresses that Israeli intelligence is the world's most powerful and most "knowledgeable" service. Israel exploited the bitter enmity between the United States and Libya in order to convey this "information" about Libya, confident that the Americans would lend an attentive ear. Indeed, as soon as the United States received the "information" the question of Libya and Al-Qadhdafi's regime became the top priority for the National Security Council. This led to the United States taking an unusual step toward the U.S. oil companies operating in Libya, namely to order the withdrawal of all those working in the Libyan oilfields and to consider a boycott of Libyan oil.

We must note here that it is the United States which for the first time is boycotting the purchase of oil, forgetting that is has been reiterating that any oil-producing country in the world that considers refusing to sell oil to the United States would be threatening Western strategic interests as a whole.

What is important about the second part of the trap which Israeli intelligence laid for the United States after conveying the "information" on the Libyan assassination squad was that it exploited the U.S. preoccupation with the preparations to confront Libya, enabling Israel to declare the annexation of Syria's occupied Golan.

As for Polish Prime Minister General Jaruzelski, he has chosen (without, of course, being aided by Israel) the same time to deal a military blow to Solidarity.

In proving the case of the Israeli intelligence trap for the United States we do not rely merely on the well-known reputation of Israeli intelligence or the logical linking of that operation with the grabbing of new Arab lands. In addition to that there was the announcement by France, which is a Western country and hostile to terror. Shortly after Washington made public its "information" about Libya and official French spokesman issued a statement on behalf of the French Government which said that, according to its information, it believes that "the attitude of the Libyan Government is no longer one of seeking to undermine stability outside its borders" and that France will seek to normalize relations with Libya. The French spokesman declined to comment on the U.S. accusation against Libya which led the observers to believe that France is completely opposed to such an accusation.

What is most important of all is: What will the Americans do if they continue to believe the Israeli "information" or discover the dimensions of the trick.

Will those who threaten world peace by continuing the resort to all kinds of coercion against the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza, the Syrian people in Golan and the Lebanese people in southern Lebanon be included on the blacklist of international terror?

BRIEFS

CAMEROON AMBASSADOR'S TERM ENDS -- Cairo, 26 Dec [MENA] -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Cameroon Ambassador in Cairo Ibrahim Mobombo Njoya this afternoon. Following the meeting, the ambassador said that he expressed his gratitude and appreciation to President Mubarak on the occasion of the termination of his term in Egypt and his transfer to his country to assume the post of deputy foreign minister. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 26 Dec 81 NC]

PLANNING MINISTER AL-AEDALLAH RELIEVED OF POST

JN281822 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Dec (INA) -- It was decided tonight to relieve Iraqi Planning Minister Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah of his post. It was also decided to entrust the planning minister's duties to Finance Minister Thamir Razuqi.

This was announced in a republican decree issued tonight and signed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 567

JN281635 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Dec (INA) -- During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian forces, totalling more than 154 killed and 3 vehicles, 2 excavators and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed. This was stated in Communique No 567 of the Armed Forces General Command this evening. The communique added that Iraqi losses were 12 martyred and 1 vehicle damaged. Following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With exquisite courage and great dash, our armed forces continue to strike at the forces of the aggressor Khomeyni clique in the operational sectors. Following are the results of the activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units clashed with an enemy force opposite our positions in Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, pounded it with various weapons and forced it to retreat, killing 72 and destroying 1 vehicle and 1 excavator.
B. Our forward units hit an enemy troop concentration in the Gilan-e Gharb area, killing more than 50.
C. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite our forward positions in the Sumar area. Our forces pounded it, killing 21 and destroying 1 excavator.
D. One of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in the Nowsud area, killing seven and destroying two vehicles and one stockpile of hardware.
E. Two were killed in the Ahvaz area.
F. Two were killed in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to more than 154 killed and 3 vehicles, 2 excavators and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 12 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle damaged.

RAFSANJANI CALL FOR GOOD WILL MISSIONS WELCOMED

GF290624 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dar listeners, the Iranian Supreme Defense Council met under Khamene'i last night. Following discussion of various issues by the participants, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, one of the leading figures of the council, who also represents Khomeyni in the council's sessions, briefed foreign and local journalists on certain matters.

One of his important remarks was this one: "The good will missions can continue their visits to the opposing sides with a view to ending the war."

Dear listeners, it could be that this remark is a serious statement. However, it could also be one that can be denied by the other mullahs who may say it merely slipped from Rafsanjani's lips and he did not actually mean it. Nevertheless, Rafsanjani made this remark, and if he is a man of his word, he should remain committed to his statement and prepare the ground for the fulfillment of his promise. Both Iranians and Iraqis warmly applaud Rafsanjani's statement because the war serves the interests of neither the people of the world nor the region.

Iraq has warmly applauded the work of the good will delegations. The work of these delegations, however, has been rendered futile until now by Iran. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and other Iranian officials have to realize this true state of affairs and understand that this war serves neither the warring neighbors nor the Muslim countries. They should prove their nobility by welcoming good will delegations and accepting the realities with a view to ending this bloody war by resolving Iran-Iraq disputes through peaceful means.

Iraq has proved its superiority on the battlefronts during the past 16 months. It has achieved military victories. Furthermore, Iraq has proposed ending the war on numerous occasions. However, the Tehran administrators have failed to comply, believing that Iraq was compelled to make such humane proposals because of its weak position. Now, however, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a major Iranian official of great responsibility, has officially invited good will missions to continue their shuttle between Iran and Iraq.

Iraq warmly applauds this invitation and expresses the conviction that it will not be rejected by other Iranian officials. The war serves neither the Iranian rulers nor their Iranian subjects. If the Iranian rulers are truely concerned with the Iranian people's interests, they must end the war.

PRESIDENT HUSAYN INSPECTS POPULAR ARMY CAMP

JN271522 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Dec (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn inspected the general training camp of the Popular Army fighters. He acquainted himself with the progress and level of training of the fighters who represent all 18 Iraqi governorates.

In a speech on the occasion, President Saddam Husayn greeted those fighters and praised their enthusiasm to volunteer and sacrifice for the homeland and the Arab nation.

The president was accompanied by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, and Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and commander of the Popular Army.

ATH-THAWRAH: RCC SECRETARY COMMENTS ON GOLAN

JN281105 Baghdad INA in English 1050 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Dec (INA) -- A senior Iraqi official today called on the Syrian Government to allow the great Syrian Army to retaliate against the Zionist aggression and liberate the Golan Heights.

Writing in the Baghdad daily newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, the secretary-general of Iraq's Revolution Command Council [RCC] Mr Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah blamed the Syrian regime for the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights.

The rulers of Damascus, who are now crying and moaning over the Zionist annexation of the Golan Heights, were themselves who paved the way for this disgraceful act whether intentionally or unintentionally, Mr Hamad al-'Abdallah said.

The Iraqi official said the Zionist step was inevitable and known and asked for the meaning for the Syrian cries.

Scattering of Syria's potentials and its valorous Army in valueless internal affairs antagonizing the Syrian people and the pursuit after cheap and selfish achievements in Lebanon through its collaboration with the Persian Amal organization with the aim to harm Iraq by assassinations and bombing the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut....such acts will not bring back the Golan Heights on which the enemy has set up scores of settlements Mr Hamad al-'Abdallah added.

The RCC secretary-general noted that the endorsement of the presence of the United Nations forces and the mandate of its presence leave no doubts that there are no intentions of liberating that precious spot of the Arab homeland.

If the Damascus rulers regained their senses and returned to the rightful path, the Zionist entity would have been deterred and the imperialist influence diminished to be replaced by the Arab word of right and justice he said.

Mr Hamad al-'Abdallah stressed that Iraq would be the first to shed the pure blood of its sons over an Arab territory sought by a usurper for annexation.

Syria and its people are very dear to us and will remain as such....and Baghdad will remain a fortress for Arabism he concluded.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL HAMID 'ALWAN INTERVIEWED

GF241650 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 22 Dec 81 p 19

[Interview granted to AS-SIYASAH correspondent Nabil al-Ghazzawi by Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamid 'Alwan in Baghdad -- no date given]

[Excerpts] AS-SIYASAH: It has been noted that an official Egyptian delegation participated in the conference of Nonaligned labor ministers in Baghdad. Does this mean that when the nonaligned summit is held the Egyptian president will come to Baghdad to attend it?

Answer: Basically, Egypt is still a member of the Nonaligned Movement. As is known, the host country cannot prevent any country which is a member in any movement or organization from attending, whatever the nature of its relations with that country. On this basis a delegation from fraternal Egypt came to Baghdad. However, this does not mean a change in the political stand on the current Egyptian regime.

AS-SIYASAH: Why didn't President Saddam Husayn attend the Fes summit conference? What is your assessment of the Arab situation after the division that took place after the Fes summit?

Answer: In fact, the president's absence from the Fes summit was not a result of a negative attitude by Iraq, which is anxious to attend -- and at the highest levels -- Arab summits in particular.

I believe the brothers -- particularly in Morocco -- know the circumstances that prevented the president from attending this conference. Iraq was represented by the second man in the party and government, the chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council. A resolution was approved at the Amman summit that a summit conference should be attended by the president of an Arab country or the man second to him. Iraq was represented at the conference by the second man in the party and government. This was not contrary to the Amman summit resolution.

As for the assessment of the Arab situation after the Fes summit, it is known that a specific project was submitted to the summit on which a difference of opinion arose. This indeed was very natural. Our opinion in Iraq was that the project submitted to the summit conference had not been fully studied. It contained very grave and very important items. More study and more consultations should have been held among Arab countries and a definite stand should have been taken on this issue. Anyway, Iraq's view on this issue is the same as it had during the summit.

AS-SIYASAH: What are the goals Iran is seeking in the war and in its current practices?

Answer: Iran has announced its goals on more than one occasion and through various means. They are the continuation of the expansionist policy of the shah and of the current regime. In fact, Iranian officials -- on every occasion -- reiterate this expansionist policy at the expense of their Arab neighbors, particularly in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula. This policy is consistent, as indicated by repeated statements by officials and through their actions, especially their interference in the affairs of Bahrain. This is a small part of Iran's expansionist ambitions in the region. Iraq's fate is to counter these ambitions on behalf of the Arab nation and to protect the Arab homeland's eastern gate.

AS-SIYASAH: It has been reported that Iran has deployed about 1 million volunteers as fodder for Iraqi fire, as was shown during the recent battles.

Answer: Truly, I cannot say for sure the exact number of Iranians who are on the front, but the frontline is a long one and the battles along it are fierce. The Iranians make many statements. Not only do they deploy their sons on the front, but they also send them to mass executions and to prisons in Iranian cities. In fact, they do not have any respect whatsoever for human beings.

AS-SIYASAH: Iraqi military communiques announce the killing of huge numbers of Iranians on the front with only very small Iraqi losses. How do you explain this?

Answer: I personally am speaking as an Iraqi citizen and not as an official. I do not doubt the truth of the Iraqi communiques. I say this not to defend them. As an Iraqi official, I say the same thing. By virtue of my acquaintance with certain matters, I can affirm that the Iraqi communiques are very accurate. Sometimes, they do not tell all the details of the battle because, as you know, they Iraqi communiques report verifiable casualties. In military jargon, this is completely true. For this reason, I do not discredit the Iraqi communiques. This is very natural because they [the Iranian authorities] force 15- or 17-year-olds to fight. That is very regrettable.

The figures in Iraqi communiques, particularly of the marytrs, naturally seem modest as compared with the other party. This is very natural because the Iraqi soldier is very experienced. The Iraqi Army is more than 50 years old, and the Iraqi soldier has fought in many wars. He has wide experience and is militarily efficient.

The situation is that the Iranian soldier, who is insufficiently trained and who reflects the chaos in Iran and outdated conceptions and ideas, is fighting an army that is fully qualified.

AS-SIYASAH: The world has been awestruck by Iran's killing of 1,500 Iraqi prisoners of war. Iraq has reserved the right to retaliate for this crime. Could you give us an idea of what measures will be taken?

Answer: Surely the retaliation will not be similar to the Iranian authorities' crime. The Iraqi authorities will not commit any aggression against any Iranian prisoner of war. We have thousands of Iranian prisoners of war who are humanely treated. We offer them the services available to us. We are also committed to the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war. Red Cross missions visit Baghdad and Tehran quite frequently and study the situation of prisoners of war. Naturally, our right to retaliate will be in shaking the conscience of the Arab people and people throughout the world against this crime. Iraq moves in accordance with international norms and regulations.

AS-SIYASAH: What is Iraq's view and evaluation of the new French policy, especially after the statment which French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson made in occupied Palestine?

Answer: The statement by the French external relations minister in the occupied land has elicited strong reaction, not only in the Arab world but also in Europe. We are still studying the issue with our Arab brothers. We have taken some steps to adopt a unified Arab stand on this issue within the Arab League, which naturally moves in this direction. In fact, the French minister said he would not retreat from the announced French policy of the socialists. I believe it is premature to take a definte stand on this at this time because an effective stand, depends on Iran's acting on the basis of a unified Arab stand.

In truth, as for the statement by the French external relations minister, we have to study it because we did not officially receive it as he made it. Besides, we have to discuss the matter with our Arab brothers in order to adopt a stand. We do not call this French stand a new one unless what the news agencies reported proves to be true. We have to be patient and await an explanation from the French minister.

AS-SIYASAH: How do you evaluate Iraqi-Soviet relations, particularly since the war began?

Answer: Without going into detail, I can say that we have extensive relations with the Soviet Union. These are relations of close cooperation based on the friendship and cooperation treaty between Baghdad and Moscow. I can only say that we are satisfied with existing relations. These relations have recently witnessed new improvements and bilateral exchange visits have been made at various levels.

AS-SIYASAH: What is Iraq's view of the U.S. Bright Star maneuvers which recently took place in a number of Arab countries?

Answer: We rejected these exercises and we have an announced stand on this issue. This stand springs from the principle which I have mentioned. How, then, can we accept U.S. military presence and open military exercises in the region? This is rejected.

OMAN'S AZ-ZAWAWI ARRIVES IN AMMAN 28 DEC

JN281248 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Amman, 28 Dec (INA) -- Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi arrived in Amman today on a short visit to Jordan. It was reported that Az-Zawawi is carrying a message to King Husayn from Omani Sultan Qabus dealing with the current Arab situation and bilateral relations.

It is to be recalled that Az-Zawawi is currently touring a number of Arab countries and has visited Bahrain and Saudi Arabia in addition to Jordan with messages from Sultan Qabus.

KING HUSAYN INTERVIEWED BY BEIRUT MAGAZINE

JN251737 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has stressed that Jordan will always work to defend the freedom of the Arabs, fulfill the mission of the great Arab revolution and preserve the Arab character and Arab rights. He added that Jordan will continue to work for Arab rapprochement and cooperation and will try to do its best to live up to these values and principles regardless of the difficulties and challenges it is facing. His majesty called on the Arab nation to rise to a level where it can confront challenges so that it can be honest with itself.

In an interview with the Beirut magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, his majesty added: The dangers of annexing the Golan are represented in the intentions which are getting clearer and clearer in Israel, not only toward all occupied Palestine, but also toward the Arab territory. They are also represented in the continuous process of expansion at the expense of the Arab individual.

His majesty added: Israel's action indicates its unlimited intentions and ambitions. The other part of the picture is that of the Arab situation, which may largely contribute to enabling Israel to achieve its aims. This is what we have to deal with on the highest levels in the Arab homeland through meetings and joint action before it is too late.

His majesty indicated that the return of the same group to power in Israel after the attack on the nuclear reactor in Baghdad -- an attack against a state abiding by the international treaty on nuclear weapons and launched by a state which is not abiding by its and which possesses [nuclear] energy -- and after its attack on Lebanon, which is suffering, shows that the majority in Israel follows a hostile trend which threatens the Arab nation. Moreover, he said, Israel is said to possess enough weapons and equipment, in addition to self-developed methods, to manufacture a large part of its needs for launching an intensive war on all fronts for no less than 6 months without needing any support or backing from any side whatsoever. The size of the problem lies not only in the measures adopted in the occupied Golan since 1967, but also in Israel, which is threatening Arab existence and seeking, together with Zionism, to internationalize the East-West dispute in this part of the Arab world.

His Majesty King Husayn warned against Arab acceptance of the internationalization of the conflict, as this will involve them in the circle of conflict and put in the balance their freedom, their generations' accomplishments, their character and their responsibilities toward coming Arab generations, something which may turn the Arab land into a hotbed jeopardizing world peace. His majesty indicated that there is a contradiction on the Arab level with regard to the opinion of some who have always been against foreign alliances, treaties and connections, and who have now developed other trends.

His majesty expressed surprise that some Arab regimes stand by the side of Iran in its war against Iraq, thus violating the Arab League Charter, joint defense pact and rights dictated by fraternity and duty.

Meanwhile, he said, Iran is receiving Israeli weapons, ammunition, and perhaps Israeli experts to help it in its war against Iraq and its threats against the Gulf, Oman and the Arabian Peninsula at a time when Iraq has been a support and strategic depth for the Arab nation in all its previous battles against and confrontations with Israel.

On whether the threat to Jordan is direct and close, his majesty said: Jordan has always been threatened. Recently we have heard many strange things. For example, the man who assumes primary power over the Israeli war machine and who is of Polish parentage, is alleging that the Jordanian regime is the only strange Jordanian phenomenon and that Jordan is Palestine. His majesty added: Jordan is Palestine and Palestine is Jordan but the issue is that of Palestinian rights, of the Palestinian human being and of the Christian and Muslim Arab human being in Jerusalem and in every inch of the occupied territories. This man says this and forgets that Gaza is the Gaza of Hashim, the great grandfather of the prophet Muhammad. We, the Hashemites, take our name from this Hashim. He forgets that before and after partition Israel expanded so much that it is now occupying the whole of Palestine in addition to territories belonging to other Arab states. Besides its presence in southern Lebanon, Israel is always threatening to expand and spread at the expense of all the Arabs.

On statements concerning the Palestinian cause by senior French officials, his majesty expressed his dissatisfaction with the current French stand and said that France seems to have returned to the position it held before President de Gaulle's assumption of office and before Franco-Arab relations were rectified. It is taking such a stand despite its promimity to a region whose issues and history are well known to France, which has been a part of this history since the Sykes-Picot agreement. There has been a European initiative and a European action which in effect prevented the region from reaching the stage of internationalization and gave us some hope that this world would inevitably move to recreate a basis on which a just peace might be established -- a peace based on complete withdrawal and the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights on their own national soil. It is indeed strange that France should move as if it is the power that can control the European Community. We are awaiting an answer to this from the European Community itself.

On whether a date has been fixed for French President Mitterrand's visit to Jordan, his majesty said: I invited him to visit Jordan when I met him. He showed a desire for this visit. We fixed a date for this visit before the recent crisis. We will look into the developments in this regard. We hope our evaluation of the French position is wrong.

On his majesty's optimism concerning his recent visit to the United States and his evaluation of President Reagan's policy in the region, he said: I was optimistic because I was searching for a basis similar to that which at least existed 25 yesrs ago on which we could build, through clarity and frankness, equitable relations following the coldness in Jordanian-U.S. relations. I found during my visit a desire to hear about the region's problems and an interest in these problems. There was also a shortage in terms of facts which might lead at a certain stage to the formulation of a U.S. Middle East policy. My visit was not confined to my talks with President Reagan and U.S. officials in Washington. The visit included fields of information and I toured various U.S. regions and explained the just Palestinian cause and the legitimate Arab rights. All these things encouraged me and gave me the impression that the United States is an important arena in which we should defend our rights and that all this is not only in the interest of the Arabs, their Palestinian cause, the rights of the Palestinians to their homeland, and the rights of the Christians and Muslims in Jerusalem, but also in the interest of the United States itself, if it takes its own interests into consideration.

His Majesty King Husayn has asserted that a just and honorable settlement of the Palestinian cause and the achievement of the aspired for comprehensive peace would result in building Arab-American relations based on frankness and cooperation, not aimed against anyone, but to attain benefits in numerous spheres.

His majesty pointed out that the situation in Lebanon needs more than securing material potential to support the reconstruction operation; it needs sincere Arab action to create a suitable atmosphere for detente and for Lebanese-Lebanese and Lebanese-Palestinian dialogues. It also needs to focus all efforts on protecting Lebanon's independence and maintaining its sovereignty over all the Lebanese territories and on preventing the nation's enemies from achieving their objectives and aims in southern Lebanon and in any other part of the Arab homeland. The situation also requires the creation of circumstances, within a definite period of time, for rebuilding Lebanon by all parties so Lebanon's current condition will not continue indefinitely and so we will not remain at the mercy of fate and danger.

His majesty emphasized that, out of his concern over Syria, he sees that the phase requires, within a form to be agreed on, that the Arab presence in Lebanon represent the Arab group and the Arab will to correct conditions in Lebanon and that all this be subject to a certain timetable. This is for the benefit of Syria, Lebanon and the Arab nation as well.

On the Fes summit conference, his majesty said: I do not believe that the Fes summit meeting has failed. It is high time to face facts and it is time for the Arab leaders to meet on the highest level to explain the problems among their states and to outline what is threatening these states and, consequently, what is threatening Arabs everywhere. It is no longer acceptable to have meetings on a lower level than that of the leaders, because certain delegations come to discuss only certain subjects whose predawn limits they are not permitted to exceed. The threats facing us are serious. An example of this is the discussion of the Lebanese cause which was raised as if it were only a matter of ensuring financial support to reconstruct Lebanon. The Lebanese cause needs a much deeper and more comprehensive discussion.

As for the rest of the topics, there are the issues of inter-Arab relations and the Iraqi-Iranian war and the contradicting Arab stands on it. The latter is an issue which Iraq does not like to raise, to avoid any embarrassment. This issue is of concern to all of us and it must be raised in order that it be discussed with frankness and clarity. It is also necessary to tackle what we see as contradictory to the Arab League Charter, the joint Arab defense pact and the higher Arab interest.

His majesty recalled the situation when Arab forces from a state confronting Israel were massed on our northern borders. This situation, he said, forced us to withdraw some of our main army formations from our long frontier with the enemy in order to face any eventuality. There was a possibility that the situation would explode and our hearts were aching because it was possible that all this would be in the interests of our enemy and the enemies of our nation. All these issues must be dealt with on the summit level in order to place our issues before Arab leaders and seek their judgments so that we can frankly identify what is in our interests and what is against them, accept judgements and opinions and bypass the stage of superficial meetings. His majesty said that the Saudi initiative remained on the summit's agenda. Saudi Arabia asked for its cancellation. Despite the Israeli and Zionist campaigns against this initiative, it remained on the agenda and has now become an Arab initiative adopted and defended by those Arab states which accepted it, and they are a majority. We still hope that there will shortly be a meeting, after proper preparations, to discuss and deal with all these problems. We hope that we will bypass the difficulties and show responsibility to carry out our task in serving our nation at one of the most serious stages in its life.

In reply to a question on whether the circumstances are conducive to the normalization of relations with Syria, his majesty said: This is not in our power but is in the hands of our brothers in Syria. I must reiterate that it is completely unacceptable that Jordan should interfere in the affairs of any fraternal Arab state. Our policy and principles are based on this stand. We refuse to interfere with others and refuse to allow others to interfere in our affairs. We deplore and condemn mass killing. But our Syrian brothers must deal with their own problems and must accuse others of things with which they have no connection. This is part of the painful reality.

Naturally, and frankly speaking, there are differences between us and Syria on two main issues, and not on the abovementioned issue, because I think they know that Jordan has no connection with what takes place on Syrian territory. The two issues are the Lebanese situation and the position regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war.

On Jordan's position in case a war takes place between Syria and Israel, his majesty said: Jordan will act according to the dictates of its conscience and duty after carefully considering all the facts.

His majesty drew attention to the fact that Israel constitutes a danger threatening the whole Arab nation, particularly in these circumstances, which are the worst ever experienced by our nation.

Asked about the extent of Jordan's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution No 242 and how it conceives of the method to develop the peace conditions included in this resolution, his majesty said: Jordan was one of the Arab sides that held basic negotiations on this resolution, which was supposed to be implemented within 6 months after its issuance by the Security Council on 22 November 1967. The resolution meant total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories in return for guaranteeing the right of all to live in security and peace. We used to say that, if peace is achieved, Jerusalem can be a symbol of peace for those believing in the monotheistic God. However, later on, matters developed and there was the 1973 war, the Arab summit in Rabat in 1974, the recognition of the PLO as the Palestinian Arab people's sole legitimate representative, the call for giving these people their right to establish their own independent state on the soil of their homeland and the Arab involvement with the Palestinian cause, which was neglected by UN Security Council Resolution No 242.

Regarding Jordan's readiness to help defend pan-Arab interests and Arab territories, his majesty stressed that every member of our Arab army and armed forces carries an emblem on his cap with the phrase "the Arab army." His majesty said: We are the sons of the great Arab revolution, whose mission is our mission. We teach Jordan's sons that they are dedicated to their nation and their large homeland. Hence, never have we hesitated to respond to the call and carry out our national and pan-Arab duty when asked by our brothers to support and help them in confronting any danger. This is always our stand.

AL-BAYRAQ INTERVIEWS PRIME MINISTER AL-WAZZAN

PM281100 Beirut AL-BAYRAQ in Arabic 19 Dec 81 pp 4, 6

[Elie Rizqallah interview with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan: "The Followup Committee Will Not Be Able To Solve the Problem in the Foreseeable Future" -- date and place of interview not given]

[Excerpts] Question: It is now common knowledge that the Lebanese problem is linked to the Middle East problem and that a settlement of the former depends on the settlement of the latter. Why then was the Arab Followup Committee formed? The intensification of the Middle East crisis and other facts and indications show that the committee has failed to achieve a minimum solution to the Lebanese problem. This means that the Lebanese crisis is bigger than the Followup Committee. What is your opinion?

Answer: A final and comprehensive solution to the Lebanese problem depends on the final and decisive settlement of the Middle East problem and its core, the Palestinian problem. However, setting things in motion, putting an end to the unjustifiable and futile infighting and promoting national accord in Lebanon are all national aspirations and should be made to proceed and materialize, out of mercy for the Lebanese people and in preservation of what is left of their reasons for living and hoping. It is now a foregone conclusion that no productive move in that direction is possible without an effective Arab contribution because the Lebanese crisis has several Arab aspects. It was on this basis that the Arab Followup Committee was formed.

It is true that the Followup Committee has so far been unable to solve the entire Lebanese problem completely and decisively, and it may not be able to do so in the foreseeable future. However, one cannot deny the Committee's numerous positive achievements, especially in putting an end to the clashes in Zahlah, promoting a cease-fire in all areas -- especially Ahlah and Beirut -- opening the Museum Road, as well as past and present steady efforts to produce more solutions and more relaxation.

Question: When do you expect the region's crisis, and subsequently the Lebanese crisis, to be settled?

Answer: Events in the area are moving rapidly, and positive as well as negative developments are escalating. This is a very delicate and serious stage open to all kinds of possibilities. We can say that the region's crisis is beginning to come out of the state of stagnation and to draw more and more international attention, with strings being pulled for a settlement serving the interests of those pulling the strings as much as possible. All this can now be sensed in the general atmosphere and perhaps gives us reason to expect some solutions to materialize as of the middle of next year. Still, we must be alert to such solutions and the possibility that they might adversely affect Arab, and particularly Lebanese, interests. Naturally we will not accept any solution that does not safeguard our supreme national and pan-Arab interests.

We must solve our domestic problems and our Lebanese people must return to their work and their life. The circumstances in Lebanon may be different from the circumstances in other Arab countries. The situation in southern Lebanon and the presence of armed elements are examples. However, we must isolate all this temporarily from our domestic problem and we must cooperate among ourselves to ease the burden of this reality. We should at the same time take the hand of our Palestinian brothers who are in our country against their will and help them to leave this land and return to theirs, to the land to which they are determined to return. This is the right way. Some may be in a hurry for this to happen; some may not be in such a hurry. What is important is that we should all agree to give the Palestinian cause a push toward success as soon as possible.

As we look at the state of affairs today we can probably say that the situation is nearer to a solution than at any other time in the past. The whole world is interested in a settlement. It might come after 6 months, 1 year or 3 years. I will not sell the sacrifices we have offered in Lebanon, ranging from the blood and sweat of our people to all the destruction that has occurred in our country and to what we have done for the Palestinian cause at the international, Arab and Lebanese levels -- I cannot forget all these sacrifices -- so as to avoid waiting 1 or 2 more years, and I cannot refrain from making more sacrifices that will lead us all to the fulfillment of our rights and unite us with our Palestinian brothers and all the Arab states. Quite truthfully and candidly I say: If the Arabs reconcile themselves with Israel, Lebanon will be the only side to lose from such a reconciliation. If capable of doing so, Lebanon should be the first to fight Israel and work for its elimination, and not only because it is a racist state based on something different from what we in Lebanon have believed in -- coexistence of all and recognition of the humanitarian values of man, not his sect or race. We who have known these values and who have set an example to the world are pained to see our territory linked to another territory on which a racist power such as Israel is established.

Question: Do you not believe that a Lebanese settlement will, from the European viewpoint, be hindered as a result of Lebanon's negative stand on the question of the participation of some European states in the multinational Sinai peacekeeping force after Israel's withdrawal in April?

Answer: The Lebanese position on everything related to the Camp David agreements, principles and aims is quite clear and well known. In Lebanon we believe that we have suffered and are still suffering from the consequences of Camp David. We have paid and are still paying the Camp David bills in blood and property and at the expense of our future.

We are aginst the destruction, the resettlement, the division, the displacement and all the black results of the Camp David line. Just as Lebanon fears and completely rejects this line, it also fears and rejects the policies which support and strengthen it. We believe that the participation of European forces in the Sinai affair falls within these policies and will on this basis obstruct an early settlement to the Lebanese problem.

Question: How could there be an American solution to the Lebanese problem as long as the United States continues to adhere to the Camp David agreements which are harmful to Lebanon?

Answer: This is a good qustion in view of the fact that Camp David has only partially solved the Egyptian-Israeli conflict and has not solved the Arab-Israeli conflict. The letter and spirit of Camp David throw all the burdens of the Palestine tragedy on Lebanon and make Lebanon among the first to pay the price. The United States must have begun to see the effects of the dead-lock resulting from Camp David. It has supported the Camp David accords all the way. It has only a few more steps to go before realizing completely that Camp David has failed and that what was in store for Lebanon under Camp David cannot be fulfilled. We hope that the responsibility for this will fall on the former U.S. administration and that the new administration will follow a new policy aimed at producing an Arab-Israeli settlement and not an Arab capitulation to Israel under which Israel gets everything and the Arabs lose everything including face and dignity.

Question: What is the truth about [U.S. envoy] Habib's latest mission?

Answer: I have been a frank man all my life. Believe me when I say that Habib did not talk to us in Lebanon and to me personally about anything except the cease-fire. This is the truth.

Question: Do you expect an Israeli war over the Syrian missiles in Al-Biqa, and the Palestinian presence in the south, as the Israeli leaders are threatening?

Answer: The Israeli threats will continue and they will increase and decrease according to the interests of the big powers.

Question: Will Philip Habib return to Lebanon, and what are we to expect if he does return, as far as the Lebanese crisis is concerned, and do you see the United States moving toward a solution to the Lebanese problem?

Answer: All the U.S. moves so far have aimed at cooling off, sedating and preventing an explosion for fear of a bigger explosion which would be impossible to control. We have noticed from the general attitude of U.S. envoy Habib that he touched upon the Lebanese situation only in relation to the situation in the region. If we consider the fact that his trips to Lebanon were a result of the Israeli-Syrian missile crisis we will realize within what framework U.S. policy has been moving so far. Bearing in mind that Habib might come to the region again, we ask if he will be bringing anything new as far as the Lebanese crisis is concerned, or as far as the region is concerned. That remains to be seen. The U.S. role cannot be effective if the United States maintains its present attitude toward Israel and if it continues its flagrant disregard for legitimate rights in general and for the Palestinian people's rights in particular.

Question: What is the fate of the Camp David accords. Do you expect them to be modified in order to entice the Arab states opposed to them. Will Camp David be changed into a "new Camp David," or a "new Geneva" or an international conference in accordance with the Soviet proposal?

Answer: The fate of Camp David is now known. It has patently failed to achieve a comprehensive settlement and, as we have said, has only led to a partial settlement between Israel and Egypt. Names and conference venues are not important. What is important is whether a conference achieves the desired results, whether it safeguards Arab rights, fulfills the Palestinian people's right to live and their right to self-determination and to their own state on their national soil, recovers all the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and deters Israel's expansionist and aggressive schemes directed against all the Arab countries. If the Arabs sensed that this could be achieved, it would not matter to them where a conference is held, who calls for it and under what name. What is important is the establishment of real peace based on justice and not on capitulation through usurpation, force, plots or the exploitation of the regrettable gaps in the Arab ranks.

Question: Do you expect a change of Egyptian policy under President Husni Mubarak?

Answer: To this day there is nothing to indicate a fundamental change in the policy of the new Egyptian president, Husni Mubarak. His statements and the statements made by other Egyptian officials reflect insistence on the course and results of Camp David. Some people expect a change after April 1982, but this remains an expectation and one cannot pass judgment on mere expectations. However, President Mubarak's reversal of some repressive measures adopted under President as-Sadat as well as his release of many important detainees known for their pro-Arab views and their opposition to Camp David may be initial indications. Still,these indications need to be strenghtened and developed. There is also a need for firm decisions that would transcend Camp David and return Egypt to the Arab fold and to the framework of comprehensive solutions.

AL-WAZZAN DISCUSSES U.S. POLICY, PALESTINIANS

NC282012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Speech delivered by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan in Beirut on 28 December to a delegation of Catholic and Protestant churches sponsored by the Middle East Council of Churches -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Our problem is the result of an injustice committed by a group of states when they permitted the establishment of a state, or an entity, on our Arab land.

What would happen if millions of red Indians or nonred Indians today decided to demand the establishment of a state in California, New York or any other place? The United States is fortunate that it is a big and great state which does not allow such a trend. However, it is regrettable that the United States was the first and most fervent supporter of this trend in our area and on the land of Palestine in particular.

The Palestinians should not be looked upon as terrorists. They have not taken up arms to kill. They have taken up arms so they can return to their homeland. We know that the United States has supported many peoples who have taken up arms for their liberation from oppression and occupation. Its support of the French resistance during the war and every resistance in Yugoslavia and every area of Europe was for this purpose. Recently, it has been calling for support of the Afghan people against occupation. It is supplying arms, directly or indirectly, to support peoples striving for liberation. Why should this be looked upon as encouraging while the other's rejected? When it concerns resistance against Nazism or fascism, it is acceptable.

I am afraid that my speech will take all the time. I shall try to be brief and say to the people of the United States that the policy of their successive governments has so far been on the side of Israel. This has lost them many friends in the area.

To many states and peoples in the world the United States is no longer the state which protects freedom and principles and supports the principles of the United Nations. I daresay, in the view of some states it is quite the opposite.

When Israel saw all this support, it began to disregard everything. Recently, it even decided to annex the Golan, embarrassing the world and the United States. We heard how Begin became insolent with the United States, its President and its policy. The small has become big, thanks to the support of the United States, and the United States has become semi-impotent in controlling the actions of this one whom it reared and pampered.

The Soviet Union should thank the United States for its policy, which has given it the opportunity to invade this area. The United States should not be surprised when the peoples of this area cooperate with the Soviet Union, as Syria has done for a year now. We remember very well that when the United States wanted to get rid of Nazism and fascism, it extended its hand to the Soviet Union and cooperated with it to get rid of Nazism. Why does it reject this by other peoples if they are removing the yoke and the Israeli occupation from them? We don't ask the United States to stand with us Arabs or with the Palestinians. We ask only that it not support Israel's crimes, which are being committed daily against our people in the south, against the Palestinians, through destruction caused by U.S. aircraft and weapons. We ask only that the United States and its people side with right, and not assist the one who consistently has showed the world that it has expansionist and aggressive intentions and a desire to occupy neighboring countries.

We say that Zionism is originally behind the plot in Lebanon. However, most regrettably, the U.S. policy, as long as it protects Israel, is sliding to protect the plot, whether or not the U.S. administration wants to. As long as it is protecting Israel, it is protecting the plot.

The world has taught us that there are two ways: The correct way to obtain our rights or the way of force to obtain our rights. If through diplomacy and understanding we cannot achieve our rights, then if not our generation, the next generations will strengthen themselves to obtain their rights by force. I enlist my son as the first one.

Although I was one of the people who did not support President as-Sadat in his line, it was a test as far as the world was concerned. The world was able to see how Israel frustrated all the good will and did not act in the direction of granting the Palestinians their rights. On the contrary, with the date for the return of Sinai approaching, Israel annexed the Golan, as if it wanted to compensate in advance something which [word indistinct] definitely returned. Therefore, we feel that Israel is an aggressive, expansionist state, and that it will remain so as long as the Israeli citizen is brought up on this basis.

[Question] Will you accept Israel's existence in return for its pledge not to expand?

[Al-Wazzan] This question should be addressed to the owners of land -- the Palestinians. We hope Israel will answer the question of whether it will allow the people of the country to return to their country. I will answer your questions differently: I accept that every Jew can continue to live in Palestine within a democratic state embracing the Palestinians, the Jews, the Christians, the Muslims and all others, and then let them determine their fate. But let the Palestinian return to his land and let him stay and then choose.

SARKIS RECEIVES FRENCH ENVOY, MAKES STATEMENT

NC281840 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] At the presidential palace today, President Ilyas Sarkis received the credentials of the new French ambassador, Paul Marc Henry, in the presence of Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. During the reception President Sarkis said: We realize that France is not indifferent to Lebanon's fate. The special interest President Mitterrand showed toward our country's questions as soon as he assumed office is a clear indication of this. The visit Cheysson will make to Lebanon in August is another clear proof of the firm dynamism of French-Lebanese relations.

President Sarkis continued: If it is taken for granted that the Lebanese themselves must chart the course they want to follow, it is also true that understanding and support by their friends is an encouraging factor, particularly because the tragic conditions we are living in have international dimensions. In addition to this, there are regional influences that go far beyond the framework of Lebanese difficulties.

France has the assets in international forums that will enable it to help us, because it defends the rights and the principles of freedom, justice and peace. President Sarkis added: We are working to maintain our country's unity, independence and security and to safeguard the principles of freedom, democracy and tolerance within the framework of the various families that comprise Lebanon.

President Sarkis said: Naturally, we are affected by the repercussions of the Middle East crisis. However, this crisis will not force us to wait for a comprehensive solution in order to settle our problems. On the contrary, we are trying all means to restore normal life in Lebanon. He said that any obstacles or stalling in solving the Lebanese problem posed real danger to settling the overall Middle East crisis and achieving stability in the area. We hope our friends will share our views and show an equal and positive interest in our difficulties of those of the area.

PRESIDENT RETURNS HOME FROM GULF TOUR

JN281908 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1852 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus at 1900 today after a tour during which he visited Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE, YAR and PDRY.

During these talks with the leaders of the fraternal Arab countries, the president exchanged opinions on the situation in the Arab region and ways to confront the hostile schemes, particularly the danger of Zionist expansion on Arab territory. The talks were characterized by a spirit of fraternity and understanding of the dangers to which the Arab nation is being exposed.

AL-ASAD TO CONTACT IRAN ON MIDEAST SITUATION

JN282002 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1950 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Aden, 28 Dec (SANA) -- A member of the delegation accompanying President Hafiz al-Asad has announced that President al-Asad will contact the leadership of the Islamic revolution in Iran in the next few days.

In a statement to ADEN NEWS AGENCY today, he added that during these contacts the two sides will review the situation in the region and discuss relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Kuwaiti Papers Herald Report

JN290947 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Dec (SANA) -- The Kuwaiti newspapers today herald the AFP report from Aden on President Hafiz al-Asad's intention to contact leadership of the Islamic revolution in Iran in an attempt to put an end to the war with Iraq.

The papers publish on their front pages the SANA report on the same subject, adding that a spokesman for the Syrian delegation, who accompanied President Hafiz al-Asad, has told the AFP correspondent in Aden that the President will soon contact Iranian leadership about Syrian-Iranian relations and the current developments in the area.

Under banner headlines, AL-QABAS says: "Al-Asad To Discuss With Tehran a Solution to the Iraqi-Iranian War," AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM: "Al-Asad To Contact Tehran To End the War With Iraq," AL-WATAR:" A Syrian Mediation To End the Iraqi-Iranian War," and AL-ANBA': "Al-Asad To Contact Tehran as a Result of His Talks in the Gulf."

AL-ASAD TO VISIT MAGHREB; FAVORS ARAB SUMMIT

NC282034 Paris AFP in English 1950 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Exceprts] Damascus, 28 Dec (AFP) -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who returned here today from a tour of Arab capitals in the Gulf, plans another trip shortly, to the Maghreb region, it was learned here today from informed sources.

The three Maghreb countries are Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. The Syrian chief of state, the sources said, will also shortly establish contact with the leaders of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

In Beirut today, reports from Kuwaiti sources said that Mr al-Asad was anxious to reconvene the Arab summit that adjourned last month shortly after it opened at Fes, Morocco, over his refusal to attend to mark his hostility to the eight-point peace plan for the Middle East.

The president, Syrian sources reported, favors a summit, provided it is "adequately prepared."

HA'ARETZ CITES SHAMIR ON EGYPTIAN STATEMENTS

TA291027 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] Last night Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir criticized official Egyptian statements calling on the United States to punish Israel because of the Golan Heights Law and pointed out that this position was not encouraging Israel to continue with the peace process and join in it.

He said that, more than this, the United States should understand that the Camp David agreement was a joint project which could be undermined when one of the partners weakened its commitment and the contents of the agreement.

Mr Shamir said to the 14 Likud faction members who were attending a meeting with him that Israel's existence was an asset to the United States. He said that recently U.S. representatives had been saying that the United States had never told Israel that it would have to return to the 1967 borders and that this was not the meaning of Security Council Resolution 242.

The foreign minister said that it was true that Europe wanted to return Israel to the 1967 borders, but there, too, more accommodating statements had recently been heard, from France and from other countries. In several European capitals there had been statements that Jerusalem should remain under Israeli sovereignty and there was room for a change in the borders, although Israel should retreat. In his opinion, there might already be some second thoughts in Britain, too, although MK Pinhas Goldstein, who had returned from a tour of Europe, reported an especially hostile attitude by the English representatives. Mr Shamir said that the European position would be reexamined after the storm over the annexation of the Golan Heights had passed over.

Mr Shamir agreed with what was said by MK Amnon Lynn, that the future of the peace agreement and its significance would only be known in a few years' time. Lynn said that the current calm on the part of the terrorists was arousing the serious fear that there was a supreme Arab headquarters working to calm the terrorists in order not to embarrass Egypt before it got back the whole of Sinai in April 1982.

Referring to a comment by MK Roni Milo, the foreign minister said that what was happening in Yamit was a saddening tragedy. "Something in our hearts is breaking." Israel would see to it that it got back everything it paid for.

AMBASSADOR SASON COMMENTS ON MUBARAK MEETING

TA281140 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Telephone interview with Israeli Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason by Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a shortly after the former's meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on 28 December -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Sason, could you please tell us about the contents of Prime Minister Begin's message to President Mubarak?

[Answer] No, I cannot tell you about it. However, I can tell you that I was received by President Mubarak at 1030 today. The meeting lasted about 1 hour. I conveyed the prime minister's reply to Mubarak's message. I cannot, of course, refer to the contents of the message.

I can only tell you two things: first, that it is a friendly message and, secondly, that it is a message from one friend to another. The meeting revolved around the contents of the message and other topics.

[Question] Mr Sason, in the wake of your talk with President Mubarak, how do you evaluate the future relations of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and, maybe, future relations between Egypt and Syria in the wake of the passage of the Golan Heights Law?

[Answer] I will not refer to my talk with Mubarak. If you reforumlate your question and ask me about my personal evaluation regarding the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights and its impact on the peace treaty and the chances for peace with Syria I will be able to answer that particular question without any reference whatsoever to my talk with President Mubarak.

My answer is very simple: In my opinion, there is no contact -- or, let me put it differently: I would say that Syria and peace are two contradicting words. Syria has been fighting against the peace process, it does not want peace, it has not accepted 242, it persists in its fight against peace between us and Egypt and against the peace process in the region. Therefore, I cannot see any influence of this or another move on our part on something that does not exist at all, that is, Syria's desire for peace.

[Question] It has been published in Israel that one of the topics raised in the message was an invitation from Prime Minister Begin to President Mubarak to meet soon in Israel.

[Answer] Again, I will not refer to the message. I will only tell you that the reference is to President Mubarak's visit in Israel in February. We still have to set the precise date through the diplomatic channels.

[Question] Mr Sason, I thank you very much.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: U.S. WILL VETO UN SANCTIONS

TA281209 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Dec 81 pp 1, 6

[Report by Tzvi Kessler]

[Text] At a high-level meeting held at the end of last week between officials of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and the U.S. administration, a promise was in effect made that the United States would veto a Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Israel.

The Security Council will be meeting in 10 days' time to discuss the imposition of sanctions in the wake of the Golan Law. Given the crisis in relations between Jerusalem and Washington, it was feared that the United States might back UN sanctions. But it seems that "the ice was broken" at the encounter at the end of last week and the way has been opened for a resumption of the friendly dialogue between Israel and the United States.

The Americans at the meeting raised the following issues:

-- Israel's security: The United States reaffirmed its unconditional commitment to the security of Israel. The Americans said this commitment was absolutely unqualified.

-- Camp David: The administration has no intention of dropping the Camp David accords and opting for other solutions to the Middle East conflict.

-- Autonomy negotiations: The Americans asked for a speedup of the talks, so that an agreement on the introduction of autonomy can be reached before completion of the Sinai withdrawal next April. They promised to do everything in their power to promote an agreement.

-- Reagan's position: President Reagan has not changed his traditional friendly position toward Israel. Reagan has "skipped" Begin's fulminations, and it is doubtful if any other American president would have "overlooked" such an outburst.

The Israeli representatives to the talks complained that the American punitive measures do the disservice of encouraging extremist elements in the Arab world to persist in their opposition to the Camp David accords. The extremist Arab countries have drawn the conclusion that their extremist line has borne fruit in the United States and has brought about a change in the attitude to Israel.

The Israelis further said that it was odd for Washington to get tough with an ally and thus gladden the heart of the Soviet Union and its satellites in the Middle East.

The Israeli side explained that the extension of Israeli law to the Golan Heights was put into effect primarily for the purpose of making it crystal clear to the Europeans and also to various elements in the United States who would have Israel return to the 1967 borders, that those borders no longer exist, least of all in the north. The Israeli step was taken to demonstrate clearly that Israel will not accept any pressure on this score. However, the Israelis reiterated emphatically their readiness to enter into negotiations without any prior conditions with Syria.

Both sides expressed regret at the acrimony that has arisen in relations between Washington and Jerusalem, and it was explained that the crisis apparently arose out of a misunderstanding. On both sides there was a marked desire to smooth over the rough edges. They agreed on the need for restraint in public utterances, so as to overcome misunderstandings and revert to an amicable dialog that befits allies.

It was decided to pursue the dialogue started at the end of the last week and that for the time being this would be done at the level of ambassadors with respectively the Foreign Ministry and the State Department and not at a summit meeting.

POST: EBAN COMMENTARY ON REACTION TO U.S.

TA290903 Jerusalem POST in English 29 Dec 81

[Abba Eban commentary: "Law and Reason in Eclipse"]

[Text] "Banana republic" is a snobbish expression of contempt for countries in Central America which rely on a single exportable commodity and have strong links with the United States. Since these countries have been constantly and successfully wooed by Israeli representatives in our quest for international recognition and support, I am unable to understand why Prime Minister Menahem Begin should have gone out of his way to insult them. During the early period in which Central America played an important role in our international struggle, Israel's only export commodity was citrus fruit, but nobody in Central America called us an "orange republic."

The irony is that no modern nation, large or small, has recently made such a fool of itself as did our country while Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or's shrill declamation was resounding absurdly from a Jerusalem street-corner bearing his chief's diatribe to the far corners of the earth.

The collapse of dignity would have been worthy of portrayal in a theatrical farce, were it not for the fact that the sacrificed dignity was that of a nation, not just that of an angry, nervous and overwrought man.

The essential point is that a country in whose name such a spectacle has been enacted is not entitled to call other countries by derisive names, such as "banana republic."

The past unhappy week began with one absurdity and ended with another. We seem to be losing the capacity to look ourselves in the face and to understand what our gaze reveals. The TV screen shows us three members of the Knesset settling in for a prolonged defiance and obstruction of Knesset decisions. I refer to Ge'ula Kohen, Hayim Druckman and Hanan Porat who have joined a movement for "halting the completion of the withdrawal from Sinai."

The constitutional and juridical paradox cries out to the very heavens from which the strident echoes of Arye Na'or's voice have hardly died away. When Knesset members incite others to prepare to obstruct the fulfilment of their country's international obligations and domestic law, they are very much like policemen plundering a householder's safe.

The lady and the two gentlemen do not seem to have decided whose side they are on: the law or the lawbreakers. Yet very few weeks have elapsed since they took a public oath to bear loyalty to the State of Israel and to fulfil the decisions of the Knesset.

The example that they now give by their pretence of affection for Yamit can only have a degrading effect on young Israelis who are laboriously learning what the ethic of democracy implies and what the dictates of Zionism require. If acceptance of an Israeli parliament's sovereign decisions is not an expression and a culmination of Zionism, the word has no sense or meaning.

Free institutions are often undermined not by the cries of their opponents, but by the silence of their supporters. There are some strange reticences and silences at work in this matter today. There is the silence of the speaker of the Knesset, who is the elected guardian of our privileges and therefore the supervisor of our obligations. Do members' privileges include the right to incite citizens to antiparliamentary violence?

Then there is the silence of the institutions and officials responsible for Israel's legal culture. Apart from the duty of the courts to vindicate that culture, surely the relationship between a legislator and the country's laws is a fair subject for critical comment in the public context.

Mrs Kohen, Rabbi Druckman and Mr Porat make no secret of their policy. If they can bring Israeli citizens into defiance of the law and incite their country to compromise its contractual honour within the world community, they will have fulfilled their declared purpose. But is this a purpose compatible with their parliamentary office and their public trust?

The sense of intellectual and moral decline was accentuated in an interview with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon at the weekend. He has made Israel the most virulent spokesman of anti-Americanism in the world. His observations, like those of Mr Begin a week before, are not just criticisms of steps taken by the administration in Washington on matters of concern for Israel. He has expressed a virulent distrust and mockery of America such as Soviet newspapers and leaders published at the height of the cold war.

No communist leader today would presume to address an American ambassador as did Mr Begin on 22 December, nor would any other defense minister in the non-communist world speak of the United States in terms which include no hint of common values or common fate.

But there has been no national decision to pass from legitimate criticism of a friend to the kind of ideology and rhetoric which usually accompany the rupture of relations. Mr Begin and Mr Sharon have simply hijacked Israeli public policy at a moment when its defenders have relaxed their vigilance.

The most mysterious silence is that of the academic community. Their duty is to offset the emotionalism and passion which play so large a role in the Jewish character and experience by contributing the balancing dimension of rationality. They are not doing this.

Israel's reputation as a society dominated by decency and reason has been compromised by the hysteria of its two leading ministers and the incipient lawlessness of three of its lawmakers. But all is quiet on the campuses while a shadow falls on Israel's place in history and the world. Is silence the right, or even the prudent, answer?

SHARON COMMENTS ON YAMIT, U.S. RELATIONS

TA282023 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said this evening that there is no intention to evacuate the Yamit residents with the help of a brigade of soldiers. We shall do this calmly, he said. The defense minister was speaking at a Herut movement meeting in Rishon Leziyyon. He said that the Yamit problem was a complicated one, and it would not be easy to solve it. He was convinced, however, that ultimately the appropriate solution would be found.

Our correspondent, Tzahi Noga, reports that Sharon also mentioned Israeli relations with the United States, asserting that the time has come for us to grasp that we are a free country and not a satellite of the United States. The U.S. punitive measures were injurious to the United States and not to us.

Regarding the labor dispute in the Defense Ministry, Sharon said that from the moment the Histadrut involved itself in the matter, he did not view it as a professional dispute but as a political one. I shall do everything I have planned to do in the Defense Ministry, and I will prove to everyone that those activities will save a great deal of money.

Further Report

TA290829 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Rishon Leziyyon, 28 Dec -- The annexation of the Golan came about in an effort to stop the erosion in Israeli-U.S. relations intended [phrase as received] to push Israel back to the 1967 borders. This is a matter involving Israel's existence and under the circumstances of the ratio of powers and arms existing today between Israel and the Arabs it is impossible to live on the 1967 borders and we shall never return to them.

This was said by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon this evening in remarks he made to Herut movement activists during a Hanukkah party held in the movement's branch in Rishon Leziyyon. Sharon said that the point of applying Israel's law to the Golan was included in the elections platform. There is nothing in UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which compels and binds Israel to return to the 1967 borders. He reminded the Americans that in 10 out of the last 25 years Israel was subject to an embargo of U.S. arms sales to it despite the Soviet threat to the Middle East.

Mr Sharon also said as far as Israel's rule in Judaea and Samaria is concerned "we will not allow terrorism in the territories." We do not ask the Arabs to become Zionists, but they do not want us anyway, the defense minister said.

YAMIT RESIDENTS PLAN TO DECLARE AUTONOMY

TA281110 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by 'Amos Hadad]

[Excerpt] The Yamit Action Committee plans to declare autonomy within 2 or 3 days, and nonresident Israelis will be allowed to enter the town only with a special visa that will be given to them by Yamit representatives, this correspondent was told by committee Chairman Yosi Sela' last night.

Mr Sela' said in reaction to the Cabinet resolution that it was decided "to go to the very end. If anyone in the Cabinet thinks we are only talking, then he is mistaken. We shall declare autonomy in Yamit, and then they will have to declare war against us -- Israel or Egypt. We have no choice, we shall fight." Mr Sela' added: "It is clear to me that the Cabinet decision will induce bloodshed, and this will fall under the responsibility of Simha Ehrlich."

Mr Avino'am Margalit, the committee spokesman, said the Yamit settlers would negotiate with the government only as equals, without any preconditions.

Groups of people were busy in Yamit yesterday with the construction of fortifications as if on the eve of war. The two smaller gates of the town had already been barred and welded with rails that had been brought for that purpose, but the main gate remained open. It will become locked, according to the action committee members, after foodstuff, water and other essential commodities are stocked in anticipation of the closure of the town and "its change into an independent state to be separated from the state of Israel."

Evacuation Notices Sent

TA281817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Our correspondent reports that the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem today began sending personal evacuation letters to residents of Yamit and Ofira. The letters state: You must hand over your house -- or your business -- by the end of March 1982 to a representative of the government. The asset must be evacuated and left in an orderly, clean and usable state. The letters adds that anyone who leaves in the coming days will have the right to a consolidation grant, those who remain on the site after March 1982 will not enjoy any further rights, and will have to pay the costs of the evacuation and the losses sustained by the government. Our correspondent reports that in recent days senior IDF officers have been trying to mediate between the residents and government representatives.

Morning Press Comments

TA290835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The National Religious Party's HATZOFE blames what is going on in Yamit to the great sense of national pain of giving up territory. It claims that the settlers are taking an unfair advantage of this genuine anguish. The paper says the situation is worrying and could lead to the spilling of blood. Yamit is becoming like the wild west, says HATZOFE, and the settlers there who break the law must pay the price. If they do not see reason [for this] the law must be enforced.

The nonparty HA'ARETZ directly accuses Defense Minister Sharon of double-talk when he says that his orders in Yamit show the Egyptians and Americans the region, quote in their pockets unquote. The paper notes the promise made by Prime Minister Begin in his recent letter to President Mubarak that the area will be returned. The paper concludes with a call to the government to pass legislation in the Knesset which will set compensation for the Yamit settlers without any more negotiations.

This line is also taken by the Histadrut DAVAR which welcomes the coalition's decision to initiate such legislation. The time has come for the government to stop bargaining and start governing, suggests DAVAR. The right of the evacuees from Yamit must be respected but the laws of the land are no less important and they must also be safeguarded.

EYTAN COMMENTS ON NORTHERN BORDER, GOLAN

TA280621 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2350 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Rosh Pina, 27 Dec -- Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan this evening stated on Hatzor Haglilit that the terrorists on the northern border had been dealt a very hard blow during the incidents in July and had been on the verge of collapsing. Speaking at a rally of local inhabitants, the chief of staff said that the calm was now being maintained on the northern border because the terrorists remember the blow they were dealt last July. Nevertheless there is no certainty that the Arabs would remember the blow for a long time and, therefore, it is unclear whether the calm will be maintained for long.

The chief of staff also referred to the application of Israeli law on the Golan Heights saying that the confrontation between Israel and Syria was a long-term issue because, as far as Israel is concerned, there are no grounds for giving up the Golan Heights. [sentence as received]

Referring to the Druze on the Golan Heights the chief of staff said that they still regard themselves as Syrians. However, the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights will make it easier for them to get used to the idea that they are now living under Israeli rule. They are becoming conscious of the idea that Israel does not intend to abandon the Golan Heights and this will strengthen their feeling that they must become reconciled with this notion and be just like any other Israeli citizen, the chief of staff said.

EYTAN: GOLAN DRUZE MAY BE RECRUITED INTO IDF

TA280710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Excerpt] The chief of staff has said that the Golan Druze may in the future be recruited into the IDF. Lieutenant General Eytan was speaking in a rally in Hatzor Haglilit. He rejected the criticism leveled at the defense minister's decision to hire Arye Ganger to a senior post in the defense establishment.

IDF Spokesman Clarifies

TA280712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Israel does not have any intention whatsoever of recruiting Golan Druze into the IDF unless they volunteer to serve in the Army after they are granted Israeli citizenship. The IDF spokesman was thus clarifying the remarks made by the chief of staff yesterday that the Golan Druze may be recruited into the IDF in the future.

WEST BANK NOTABLES OPPOSE AREA VILLAGE LEAGUES

TA281227 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Dec 81 p 4

[Report by Gabi Bron]

[Text] Residents in the Ramallah area complain about the imposition of terror by body guards of heads of the area village leagues, who were provided with arms recently.

In recently received complaints, villagers from Baytuniya in the Ramallah district claim that body guards of the area village league deputy chairman, Fikri 'Isa, fired in the air for several nights in succession, thus terrorizing the residents and causing security forces to make house-to-house searches in the village.

These claims are apparently inspired by attempts of nationalistic extremists to generate opposition to the area village leagues, which are thought to be moderate.

The mayors of Janin and Tulkarm have meanwhile rejected proposals to set up area village leagues in thier subdistricts, but the council of the Janin area notables is meeting tomorrow to continue to discuss the subject.

The chief opposition is in Tulkarm and in Qalqilyah. A member of notables in these two towns have already announced they will refuse to accept assignments in the area village leagues that are initiated by the Israeli Civilian Administration. This, because the establishment of those leagues "negates the hopes and ambitions of the Palestinian people to be free and establish an independent state."

U.S. SENATOR PERCY ARRIVES FOR 2-DAY VISIT

TA271936 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 27 Dec -- Senator Charles Percy, the chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, arrived in Israel today for a 2-day visit. He will confer with Prime Minister Begin, Defense Minister Sharon, Foreign Minister Shamir, Knesset members Peres and Arens and Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek.

Meets Shamir

TA281246 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. Senator Charles Percy met this morning with Foreign Minister Shamir at the start of 2 days of talks with senior Israeli officials. Reporter Rut Blaukoff says that the 90-minute meeting with Minister Shamir was described by an Israeli official as very friendly, dealing in depth with the current state of Israeli-U.S. relations. America's ambassador to Israel, Samuel Lewis, was present during the discussion, which covered progress in the peace talks with Egypt, the autonomy negotiations, the Golan Heights and Israel-U.S. relations. Israeli officials said Senator Percy, who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, set out American views on various points and Foreign Minister Shamir gave detailed answers.

Our reporter says the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem is attaching great importance to the talks with the Republican senator. This afternoon Senator Percy is due to meet the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Moshe Arens, and Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres. Tomorrow he will have talks with Prime Minister Begin and Defense Minister Sharon.

Details on Meeting

TA281547 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] A guest now in Israel is U.S. Senator Charles Percy, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, after their meeting, told him: the U.S. policy toward Israel is decreasing the chance of other Arab countries joining the peace process. Percy replied that various Israeli steps are unacceptable to its friends in Washington. Our political correspondent, Gad Becker, reports:

The foreign minister and the visiting senator talked for more than 90 minutes. The visit and the talk, which were set even before the current freeze in the Israeli-U.S. relations, served as a good opportunity for another review and explanation of positions. Foreign Minister Shamir gave answers to many questions put to him by Senator Percy. He warned him of Israeli concern over the U.S. administration's policy over the last year. Various moves, including the punishments inflicted on Israel, said the foreign minister, are creating second thoughts here about the nature of U.S. policy. In such a situation, there is no encouragement for other Arab countries to join the peace process, the Camp David process, Shamir said. In reply, Senator Percy repeated the unambiguous commitment, as he phrased it, of the United States to Camp David and the security of Israel.

Percy, who is not characterized as an Israeli sympathizers in the Senate, described the way in which the United States regards Israel's latest steps. These steps, he said, are neither accepted by nor clear to your friends. They have put the United States in a serious position.

Percy is not bringing with him any message from the U.S. administration heads, but people in Jerusalem are saying his visit fits in with and may contribute to the political effort to bring about an improvement in the atmosphere of U.S.-Israeli relations. Today the foreign minister and the U.S. senator agreed that an improvement in these relations should indeed be worked for.

Tomorrow Senator Percy will meet the prime minister and the defense minister and he will also go on a tour of the north of the country, accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir.

Disagreement on Saudi Role

TA291033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Differences about the Saudi role in the achievement of a cease-fire in southern Lebanon developed today during the visit by Sen Charles Percy, the head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to the Good Fence.

The senator claimed that Saudi Arabia's role was decisive while Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir adhered to the version that Saudi Arabia played no role and that the terrorists agreed to a cease-fire because they had been dealt a hard blow by the IDF and were on the verge of collapse. Our correspondent, Hayim Hecht, reports that in Senator Percy's opinion the cease-fire should be maintained as a step toward the attainment of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

Major Haddad was at the place but Senator Percy refused to confer with him and Major Haddad angrily left.

Refuses Visit to Golan

TA290643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The head of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, will tour the north of the country today and visit Qiryat Shemona, Nahariyya and the Good Fence. He refused to tour the Golan and Judaea and Samaria. Early this evening he will meet the prime minister and the defense minister.

In his talks in Jerusalem yesterday he expressed concern about the stalemate in the automony talks saying that in his opinion Washington should immediately appoint a high-level representative to these talks.

ALGERIA

KUWAIT LEADER ARRIVES IN ALGIERS; TALKS BEGIN

LD242012 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Excerpts] His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister of the State of Kuwait, arrived in Algeria this afternoon on a 4-day official visit at the invitation of Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the National Liberation Front. He was welcomed at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Brother Mohamed ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; Brother Mohamed Hadj Yala, member of the Political Bureau and minister of finance; [words indistinct] members of the government, high-ranking officials of the party and government and members of the Arab diplomatic missions accredited to Algeria.

At the VIP hall, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah made the following statement to the national pressmen: [Begin recording] It is a pleasure for me and my delegation to make this visit to the fraternal Republic of Algeria at the kind invitation of brothers in this country, the country of struggle. We carry with us the greetings of the Kuwaiti sons to the fraternal people of Algeria. Naturally, during our stay here we will discuss all matters concerning the Arab world in general and relations between the two fraternal countries in particular. As a result of the challenges our Arab nation is exposed to these days we must consult and coordinate with the brothers in order to strengthen the Arab stand.

President Chadli Bendjedid received Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah this evening at his office in the People's Palace where the Algerian-Kuwaiti talks began.

Talks Concluded

LD262330 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Algerian-Kuwaiti talks were concluded yesterday evening with the convening of an expanded session at the People's Palace, chaired by Brother Mohamed ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, and His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister.

The talks centered on the current Arab situation, bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them and on international issues of mutual interest. It was stated that viewpoints were identical on all the issues discussed and that the talks took place in a frank atmosphere characterized by a spirit of fraternity, responsibility and understanding. The two sides agreed to set up a joint committee to develop economic relations between the two countries. This committee will meet shortly in Kuwait to study joint projects and draw up a working program aimed at creating a firm economic basis for relations between the two fraternal countries.

Statement Issued

LD271832 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Algerian-Kuwaiti statement issued on 27 December after visit to Algeria by Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate.

In furtherance of the fraternal relations between the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and the State of Kuwait, and at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah paid a friendship and working visit to Algeria at the head of an important delegation from 24 to 27 December 1981.

President of the Republic, Chadli Bendjedid received the great guest who conveyed to him a verbal message from his brother the amir of the State of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, in which he expressed his pleasure with the strong fraternal relations which bind the two peoples together and his determination to develop and bolster them in various fields.

During the visit, talks were held in a cordial atmosphere covering bilateral issues and international questions, particularly the situation in the Arab homeland.

The Kuwaiti prime minister and heir apparent also held a series of talks with Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed ben Ahmed Abdelghani in an atmosphere of fraternity and understanding during which they concentrated on social relations between the two countries and ways of consolidating and bolstering them in the various fields for the good of both fraternal peoples.

They also discussed the situation in the Arab world and concentrated on ways and means to help bolster Arab solidarity in the face of the offensive of imperialism and Zionism, which seeks to consolidate their occupation of the Arab land and which are trying to impose their domination permanently on the whole region.

They strongly denounced the recent Zionist aggression manifested in the decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights in defiance of the whole world, the UN resolutions and international law. The two sides called for the unification and bolstering of Arab ranks and the mobilization of all capabilities to face up to the Zionist challenge and to stand by fraternal Syria in its bid to retrieve its full rights.

On studying the cause of destiny, they reaffirmed their determination to bolster the resistance of the Palestine people led by the PLO, to enable them to retrieve usurped rights and set up their independent state over their land. They also greeted the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories, who have stood firmly and determinedly in their efforts to abort all Zionist designs.

The two men reviewed the situation in Lebanon and expressed their solidarity with the fraternal Lebanese people. They condemned the repeated Zionist aggressions against the two fraternal peoples -- Lebanese and Palestinian. They affirmed their support for Lebanon's independence and the safeguarding of its Arab character and territorial integrity under the aegis of its legitimate authority.

On reviewing the situation in the Arab Gulf region, the two sides reiterated their anxiousness about keeping the region away from the sphere of international conflicts and their denunciation of all forms of foreign military presence or interference. The Kuwaiti side presented the steps and resolutions adopted within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The two sides expressed their support for all the efforts being made to mobilize all resources and capabilities in serving the pan-Arab issues.

The two sides expressed their profound concern over the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war because of the dangers it holds for the two combatant countries and on the region's security and because of the squandering of Arab-Islamic capabilities it involves. They expressed their hope that a solution will be found to bring peace and security for the two countries and for the region as a whole.

On African questions, the two sides expressed their support for the struggle of the African peoples for freedom and independence. They affirmed the importance of activating Arab-African cooperation in all fields for the good of both sides.

On reviewing international issues of common interest, the two sides had identical stands on all matters discussed. The two sides expressed their deep concern over mounting world tension and their adherence to the principles of nonalignment and the role these principles play in positively supporting just causes in the world and safeguarding world peace and security. They stressed the need for the urgent resumption of comprehensive negotiations within the framework of the United Nations and the establishment of a new and more equitable and consolidated international economic system.

In view of the mutual respect and trust characterizing relations between the two countries, the two sides decided to expand and enrich these relations through coordination and the holding of consultations on all matters of interest to both countries. In this context, it was agreed to set up a joint ministerial committee. They agreed that the first meeting of the committee will be held during the first quarter of 1982 in Kuwait to draw up the details of the joint economic projects and the plan of action to follow.

The Algerian side on the committee will be headed by Planning Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi and the Kuwaiti side by Minister of Finance and Planning 'Abd al-Latif al-Hamad. The committee will develop and promote economic relations between the two fraternal countries.

In the field of information, the two sides signed an information agreement.

During the visit, the Kuwaiti prime minister and heir apparent acquainted himself with some of the historical landmarks of Algeria and expressed his admiration for and pride in the development Algeria is witnessing in all fields. He wished Algeria further successes and progress.

At the conclusion of the visit, the Kuwaiti prime minister and heir apparent invited his Algerian counterpart, Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, to visit Kuwait. The invitation was accepted with gratitude and the date for it will be fixed at some later date.

Visit Ends

LD271544 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Algiers, 27 Dec (APS) -- Kuwaiti Prime Minister and heir apparent Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Babah and his accompanying delegation left Algiers this afternoon at the end of their official visit to Algeria at the invitation of Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general and president of the republic. The visit lasted 4 days.

During the visit, the Kuwaiti prime minister was received by President Chadli Bendjedid. The Kuwait prime minister and the Algerian officials discussed the current Arab situation, bilateral relations and international issues of joint interest.

UAE OFFICIAL ARRIVES 26 DEC; MAKES STATEMENT

LD261334 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Text] His Higness Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, arrived in Algiers this morning. Upon his arrival at Houari Boumediene International Airport, he was welcomed by Brother Mohamed Ben Yahia, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs, and Brother Salim Saadi, minister of agriculture, and a number of prominent party and state officials.

Before moving to the VIP lounge, His Highness Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, accompanied by Mohamed Ben Yahia, inspected a unit of the presidential guard.

At the airport's VIP lounge, the UAE heir apparent made a statement in which he said: It pleases me, during this visit to sisterly Algeria, to convey the greeting of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan to the president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

His highness the heir apparent said: It pleases me to greet, in my name and in the name of the government and the people of the UAE, the government and the people of sisterly Algeria whose struggle for liberation and independence and its confirmation of its Arab [word indistinct] has been and still is a light and a source of creative inspiration from which the Arab people draw strength and determination in their struggle for the liberation of the usurped territories and the seized holy places.

He continued by saying his visit, which is in response to the kind invitation of the Algerian Government, is aimed at bolstering and supporting the brotherly relations between the two countries which are consolidating day after day under the patronage of President Chadli Bendjedid and His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan, stemming from their endeavor for continued communication and exchange of viewpoints among brothers at all levels and their absolute faith in the importance of deliberation and understanding about all issues of destiny which link the Arabs in all their countries.

He ended his statement by saying: We hope this visit will serve to prepare more means of cooperation between our two countries and to add new stock to the march of rapprochement between the countries of the Arabian Gulf and the Arab Maghreb, and to face our responsibilites especially at this crucial stage in the history of our Arab nation; and to achieve our aims, the good of our peoples and the settlement and their human progress at all levels.

Meeting With Bendjedid

GF261806 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1724 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Text] Algiers, 26 Dec (WAM) -- Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the armed forces, held official talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The talks lasted 1 hour and were attended on the UAE side by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah and on the Algerian side by Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia.

In a statement to WAM after the meeting, Rashid 'Abdallah said that Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid conveyed a message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan to Algerian President Bendjedid. He said Shaykh Khalifah and the Algerian president held a detailed discussion on bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them in all fields to serve the interests of the two fraternal peoples of the UAE and Algeria. He added that the meeting was fruitful and a true expression of the close fraternal relations linking the two countries.

Shaykh Rashid 'Abdallah said the two sides also discussed the current Arab situation. He noted that their views were identical on the need to put aside secondary differences and to restore Arab solidarity so as to face the challenges confronting the Arab homeland and to coordinate Arab contacts and consultations to pave the way for convening an Arab summit conference as soon as possible. With regard to the situation in the Gulf the two sides stressed the need to achieve stability and security in that sensitive part of the world.

Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid expressed to the Algerian president his admiration for Algeria's progress and his gratitude and that of the delegation accompanying him for the warm hospitality accorded to them.

Shaykh Khalifah arrived in Algiers today on a 1-day official visit to Algeria at the invitation of the Algerian Covernment.

26 Dec Departure

LD271608 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Algiers, 27 Dec (APS) -- UAE Crown Prince and Deputy Commander of the UAE Armed Forces Lt Gen Khalifah ibn Zayid left Algiers yesterday afternoon. He was seen off by Mohamed Ben Yahia, member of the FLN Politbureau and foreign minister, and by Salim Saadi member of the FLN Central Committee and agriculture minister.

Lt Gen Khalifah ibn Zayid arrived in Algiers yesterday morning and was immediately received by FLN Secretary General and President of the Republic Chadli Bendjedid to whom he conveyed a message from UAE ruler Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan.

ALGERIAN-YUGOSLAV JUDICIAL AGREEMENT SIGNED

LD271453 Algiers APS in English 1008 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Algiers, 27 Dec (APS) -- Yugoslav agreement in the judicial field was signed on Saturday in Algiers by Messrs Abdelhalim Benyeles and Yarnar Farhovitc, respectively secretary general of the Ministry of Justice, and federal secretary of justice of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

This agreement aims at strengthening the cooperation between the two countries in the judicial field.

In another development, Mr Boualem Baki, Politburo member, minister of justice, audienced the Yugoslav delegation led by Mr Farhovitc. The two sides exchanged views on the prospects of the cooperation in the field of justice and the means for the consolidation of it.

LIBYA

LIBYA INFORMS CUSTOMERS OF OIL PRICE REDUCTIONS

NC281236 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Nicosia, 28 Dec (AFP) -- Libya has informed customers of oil price reductions coming into force on (?January) [word indistinct] the MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES) said today.

Top quality Brega and Zueitina oil will come down 50 cents to $37 a barrel, the floor price set by the oil exporting countries at their recent Abu Dhabi conference. Sider and Sirtica are to cost $36.5 a barrel or 18 cents below the Abu Dhabi floor rate. Lower quality Sarir will be reduced to $35.75 a barrel or 55 cents under the floor price.

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA MESSAGE LIKENS ISRAEL TO SOUTH AFRICA

AB241711 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] In the face of Israel's illegal decision to annex the Arab territory of the Golan and the recent attempts by the Zionist entity to resume its diplomatic relations with some African countries, Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, has sent a message to the current OAU chairman and all African heads of state with a view to safeguarding and further strengthening the bonds of friendship and the relations of solidarity and cooperation between African and Arab countries. The message reads:

At a moment when Israel has made the illegal and bellicose decision to annex the Arab-Syrian territory of the Golan, I have the honor of drawing your attention to the seriousness of this new situation. In defying the provisions of international law, in making permament aggression the principle of its behavior in international relations, in using force and occupation as the basis of its legitimacy, Israel for us Africans is in many ways similar to the illegal regime of racist South Africa. As a matter of fact, Israel and South Africa constitute the two strongholds of imperialism, the one being in the very heart of the Arab nation and the other at the southern entrance to the African continent. It is now more necessary than ever for us to wage the same struggle against them. Arab-African solidarity must more than ever take up those two challenges.

We will never accept the rule of apartheid in Namibia and Azania and neither will we allow Israel to maintain control over Palestine and to occupy Arab territories.

In this regard, it has become obvious that the Camp David accords cannot be a basis for a just settlement of the Middle East crisis. Israel's decision to annex the Golan is the proof -- should proof be necessary -- that it does not at all want peace. On the contrary, it appears that the Zionist entity is, as ever, based on permanent aggression, the usurpation of territories and racial oppressions in contempt of international law. It is important for Africans and Arabs, who are facing identical situations of racism and violations of people's most elementary rights, to become aware of the similarities of their struggle. In this regard, I urge you to give your support to the Arab cause, as you have always done, by strongly condemning Israel's illegal and unacceptable decision to annex Syria's territories in the Golan.

In another development, the Zionist entity has stepped up moves in the last few days, aimed at disrupting Arab-African solidarity in order to resume diplomatic relations -- broken since 1973 -- with some countries on our continent, who would strengthen the Zionists in their acts of aggression and provocation against the Arab nation.

I am convinced that, thanks to your perspicacity and your keen sense of the historic mission of our continent in the liberation struggle of the people, you will not fail to see the insolence and treachery of the Zionist move that cannot receive favorable response from your respective countries because you and your brotherly people have already made great sacrifices. Do recover your dignity, your freedom and your independence.

In sending you this message, I am convinced of the efficient support you have relentlessly given to just causes all over the world, particularly your attachment to the common destiny of African and Arab peoples.

KUWAITI CROWN PRINCE, TAYA EXCHANGE SPEECHES

AB282208 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Today is the second day of the visit of his highness the crown prince and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Kuwait, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, who came on an official visit to our country yesterday. His highness, the crown prince, and Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, prime minister and minister of national defense, this morning presided over an extended working session including the other members of the two delegations which are accompanying them. The session was marked by the exchange of speeches between the two prime ministers.

Speaking first on the occasion, Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, on behalf of Mauritania, its government and people expressed happiness for this visit as well as all our esteem for the brother State of Kuwait. The prime minister further said: We are following with admiration Kuwait's exemplary experience in its national construction, an experience which is worthy of consideration. In fact, Kuwait style is on the whole, characterized by efficiency and seriousness, and this is even more evident in the fruitful cooperation between our two states; especially so because this cooperation concerns many fields of our national life -- economy, finance and culture.

Your Highness, Mauritania, like Kuwait is in favor of the establishment and preservation of an atmosphere of cooperation in the region. The only condition which it gives for the establishment of this atmosphere of cooperation is the respect of its sovereignty and independence. It believes that all acts undertaken to the contrary of this principle cannot succeed. This is our basic principle on relations between states and the effects they have at all levels.

I want to be brief, especially because mere words, whatever care one takes to make them convey the right sentiment, cannot faithfully express all our esteem for you and the esteem of Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Council for National Salvation, CMSN, and head of state, for his brother, His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait. On the other hand, the government, like Kuwait, prefers concrete work to mere words. We, however, must take this opportunity to reiterate our hearty thanks and high esteem for the generous aid which the State of Kuwait has so far granted us and continues to give us. This is very generous aid because Kuwait does not only give assitance to the Mauritanian state but also financially supports numerous organizations of which we are members. Moreover, it must be mentioned that Kuwait has played a decisive role in defending documents we have submitted to several financing institutions.

In this context, we, who have for several years been the torchbearers and champions of the cause of Islam and its language, highly appreciate the contributions of Kuwait which are meant to preserve their historic role and our common heritage, in accordance with our aspirations for progress and prosperity. Today, in the light of this visit, we are convinced that our excellent relations of cooperation will be given a new impetus for the common good of our two brotherly peoples, of all Arab nations from the Atlantic to the Gulf and for the well-being of the African continent. Once again we wish you a hearty welcome to your second country, Mauritania.

Speaking next, His Highness Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince and president of the Council of Ministers of the State of Kuwait, expressed his satisfaction and that of the delegation which accompanied him for the warm sentiments expressed by the prime minister in his speech.

I have the pleasure to express once again on behalf of myself and my delegation our gratitude for the warm welcome given us by the head of state, the prime minister and all the authorities of the brotherly Mauritanian people, he added. We in Kuwait know the difficulties you are experiencing not only in the economic field but also concerning the problems existing between you and a state in this region. We came with the hope of helping you find solutions to this problem and to bring you the fraternal greetings of your borthers in Kuwait. They highly appreciate your national positions marked by a high sense of responsibility and duty, a duty which we all assume in the interest of the great Arab cause, namely, the Palestinian issue. In this respect, it is our duty, as leaders of Arab states to agree on a common policy devoted to reviving Arab unity in the face of the common enemy, he added.

The crown prince and president of the Council of Ministers ended his speech by renewing his invitation to Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya to make an official visit to Kuwait.

HAYDALA RECEIVES FRENCH PRESIDENT'S ADVISER

AB241855 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Guy Penne, the French president's adviser on African and Malagasy affairs, arrived in Nouakchott yesterday.

Shortly after his arrival, he was received in audience by the head of state, President Khouna Ould Haydala, to whom he conveyed a personal message from French President Francois Mitterrand. After the audience, the French envoy disclosed that it was a message of friendship and truthfulness.

[Begin recording] [Guy Penne] It is a message of friendship and truthfulness from the president of France. The message is on the harmonious and constant relations between Mauritania and France.

[Question] Should one expect the consolidation of the cooperation between France and Mauritania?

[Answer] We will soon hold a working session. In 3 weeks, Cooperation Minister Jean-Pierre Cot will come to Nouakchott to preside over the deliberations of the Mauritania-France joint commission. There are many projects underway which we will discuss in order to reach an agreement on our assistance to Mauritania. [end recording]

This morning, French President Mitterrand's adviser for African and Malagasy affairs was also received by Mahmoud Ould Sid (Ali), deputy minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

This afternoon, Guy Penne will visit the National Museum as the last activity on the official agenda of his visit to our country, according to the MAURITANIAN NEWS AGENCY.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT RECEIVES VISITING YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL

JN241112 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Dec (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri yesterday evening received Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and reviewed bilateral relations with him. They also discussed ways to bolster and develop these relations and cooperation in all fields.

Mr Zarkovic expressed his admiration for the Great May Revolution's achievements under the leadership of President Numayri and Sudan's constructive stands on regional and international issues.

The meeting also included a discussion of the current international situation, which is characterized by tension and the interference of some states in others states' affairs -- which has negative effects on the Third World states. President Numayri and Mr Zarkovic stressed the need to remove the causes of such tension and to achieve world stability and peace.

The two sides also discussed the Nonaligned Movement and attempts to drag it into axes and groupings, stressing the need to adhere to this movement's noble principles in order to safeguard its independence and enable it to play its effective role in world peace. They also stressed the need for consultation and coordination between the two friendly states.

The meeting also dealt with a discussion of the Middle East issue, stressing the need to find a just and peaceful solution for this issue and the importance of Arab solidarity in finding such a solution.

The two sides also discussed South Africa, stressing the need for solving the Namibian issue in light of the UN resolution.

They also touched on the Chadian issue, stressing the need to work to achieve peace and stability in Chad.

At the end of the meeting, President Numayri praised Yugoslavia's internal and foreign policies -- which were adopted by the deceased leader Tito and are being bolstered and adopted by the Yugoslav group leadership.

Press Statement Issued

JN241650 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, Belgrade, 24 Dec (SUNA) -- Following is the press statement on the official and cordial visit to the Democratic Republic of the Sudan by Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the State Presidency of the SFRY:

In response to a kind of invitation from the Presidency of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the State Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and his wife paid an official and cordial visit to Sudan from 21-23 December 1981.

During the talks, which were held in an atmosphere of amity and friendship between the SFRY State Presidency member and Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, the two sides exchanged views on several issues pertaining to the development of bilateral relations as well as to international issues of joint interest. The SFRY Presidency member also discussed with Sudanese First Vice President Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil ways of developing bilateral relations and also discussed the international situation in general. The SFRY State Presidency member also met with Vice President Abel Alier and discussed with him in detail ways to develop bilateral relations and reviewed current international issues.

The following officials took part in the talks on the Sudanese side: Muhammad Sharif at-Tuhami, minister of energy and mining; Abu Bakr 'Uthman Muhammad Salih, minister of state for Cabinet affairs; Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, minister of foreign affairs; Bashir Ibrahim Ishaq, minister of state at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning; Dr 'Uthman 'Abd ar-Rahman Hakim, minister of state in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation; Dr Hasan 'Abidin, assistant secretary of the Party Organizations Department and secretary of the SSU Foreign Relations Committee; 'Abd al-'Al Sanadah, director general of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry; 'Izzat ad-Dib, Sudanese ambassador to Yugoslavia; 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali, director of the East Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Mustafa 'Ali Arbab, director of the Political Affairs Department at the Presidency.

The following officials took part in the talks on the Yugoslav side:

Milovan Zidar, president of the Federal Committee for Agriculture; (Blagoje Sihov), Yugoslav ambassador to Sudan; (Dragoslav Bitish), secretary general of foreign relations at the SFRY State Presidency; Ismet Redzid, adviser to the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; and (Fujin Ocokoljic), adviser at the Yugoslav Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the level of relations between the two countries -- relations characterized by traditional friendship and mutual understanding and confidence. They expressed their desire to develop bilateral cooperation in all fields. In this regard, they indicated the importance of intensifying contacts on all levels.

The two sides attached special importance to the opportunities for economic cooperation and stressed that the success achieved in developing economic relations has a large impact on the development of all Sudanese-Yugoslav relations. They also stressed that the results so far achieved show there is still ample scope for further development and diversification of economic cooperation.

The two sides stressed the need to exert joint efforts to increase and diversify trade exchange and develop investment cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides praised the role played by the joint Sudanese-Yugoslav Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation in developing economic cooperation between the two countries.

During their review of the international situation, the two sides expressed their anxiety over the deterioration of the international situation and noted that world peace and security are being threatened by the failure to find solutions to international crises and by the emergence of new international crises as a result of the increased tension in the relations between the two superpowers and their rivalry in expanding their zones of influence. The escalation of the arms race, the deterioration of the international economy and the failure to present solutions to the problems of the developing world are adversely affecting the international situation in general.

The two sides stressed the need for the international community to exert continuous efforts to overcome the unsatisfactory developments now prevailing in the world. They believe that the efforts to reduce tension must be essentially directed toward removing the causes of crises and avoiding military intervention and interference in other countries' affairs. World peace and security can only be achieved in an atmosphere of comprehensive international detente with the participation of all states on an equal footing in solving international economic and political problems.

The two sides stressed the need to take firm measures to achieve disarmament, narrow the gap between the industrial states and the developing countries and solve crises by peaceful means in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter.

The two sides praised in particular the policy of nonalignment and the positive role it plays in achieving solutions to urgent international problems. They said the policy of nonalignment has proved to be a vital factor which is independent of world power blocs and the only alternative to world power bloc policies, which advocate hegemony and domination.

The policy of nonalignment has become a strong force in the efforts to change political and economic relations in the current international system in order to achieve lasting peace and security and international cooperation based on equality and justice. During their talks, the two sides called for strengthening bilateral cooperation and effective solidarity among all members of the Nonaligned Movement in accordance with the firm bases of this movement's policy.

The two sides agreed that current disputes and differences within the Nonaligned Movement have adversely affected the movement's ability and efficacy. The two sides believe it is essential for the nonaligned states to find solutions to the differences between fellow members by peaceful means so these differences will not expand into open conflicts.

During their review of the importance of unity among the members of the Nonaligned Movement, the two sides expressed their opposition to the big powers' polarization attempts and tendency to present nonalignment as a passive movement. The two sides renewed their readiness to effectively contribute the preparations for the 7th conference of nonaligned heads of governments which is scheduled to meet in 1982 in Baghdad.

The two sides expressed great concern about the prevailing situation in the Middle East. They strongly condemned Israel's occupation of Arab territory and reasserted their conviction that peace and stability in the Middle East can only be achieved through a just and comprehensive solution to the crisis, including Israel's unconditional withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including holy Jerusalem, and the full recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights of independence, self-determination and the establishment of their state on their own soil. The two sides affirmed their conviction that any solution to the Middle East problem will not be complete, just and permanent without the participation of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides strongly condemned Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and affirmed that the annexation is an act of aggression which is added to Israel's acts of aggression and expansion against the Arab states' sovereignty and independence. They called on the international community to take the necessary measures to prevent Israel from carrying out any new acts of aggression in the region.

The two sides reviewed with interest South African developments and strongly denounced the racist regime in South Africa for its policy of aggression against the confrontation states and its illegal occupation of Namibia. In this regard, the two sides called for speedy actions to implement the UN settlement plan stipulated in UN Security Council Resolution 435, which called for granting independence to Namibia. The two sides affirmed their full support for SWAPO as the legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

While reviewing the crises in Africa, particularly the Chadian situation, the two sides expressed their support for the OAU role in bringing peace and security to this African state and for enabling the Chadian people to freely define their internal affairs.

The two sides showed interest in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and expressed their conviction that this conflict should be solved peacefully in accordance with the UN Charter and the nonaligned policy.

In order to guarantee security and stability in Southeast and southwest Asia, the two sides agreed on the need to support peaceful endeavors to solve the Afghanistan and the Kampuchean problems on the principles of the UN resolutions which call for respecting the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and nonalignment of these two states.

The two sides reviewed international economic relations and affirmed the need for speedy solutions to the acute problems in international economy and the economy of the developing states. The two sides note with satisfaction the increasing awareness that a solution to the development problems of the developing world constitutes the first step toward international economic stability and a new world economic order. They affirmed the need for continued discussions in international forums and within the United Nations with the aim of reaching this objective with the active participation of the developing and nonaligned states.

The president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the SFRY State Presidency member expressed their complete satisfaction with the results of this visit as their talks showed an identity of views on issues under discussion. They agreed that the visit effectively contributed toward strengthening the ties of friendship, cooperation and understanding which exist between the two countries. The SFRY State Presidency member expressed his thanks and gratitude to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, First Vice President Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, Vice President Abel Alier and the Sudanese people for the hospitality accorded him and his delegation during the visit.

The SFRY State Presidency member extended invitations to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Vice President Abel Alier to pay a visit to Yugoslavia. The two invitations were accepted with pleasure with the dates of the visits to be fixed later.

Yugoslav Official Departs

JN241140 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Dec (SUNA) -- The visiting member of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia left here this morning, winding-up a three-day official visit to Sudan.

Vidoje Zarkovic, had met yesterday with President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and First Vice President General 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil and reviewed bilateral relations and current issues in international African and Arab scenes.

ETHIOPIA

SOVIET WOMEN'S LEADER ARRIVES FOR 1-WEEK VISIT

LD231308 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 23 Dec 81

[Text] Comrade Valentina Nikolayeva Tereshkova, member of the CPSU Central Committee and of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairwoman of the Committee of Soviet Women, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning on a 1-week working visit to socialist Ethiopia.

On arrival in Addis Ababa, Comrade Valentina Nikolayeva Tereshkova was received by Comrade Yusuf Ahmed, minister of communications and transport, Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia (COPWE) Central Committee member and chairman of the Ethiopia-USSR Friendship Committee; Comrade Col Tesfaye Habte Mariam, COPWE Central Committee member and hero of socialist Ethiopia; Comrade Truwork Wakeyo, COPWE Central Committee member and head of women's affairs of COPWE's Organization Department; Comrade Abezash Wolde Michael, chairwoman of Revolutionary Ethiopia's Women's Association; and Comrade Konstantin Fomichenko, Soviet ambassador to socialist Ethiopia.

During her stay in socialist Ethiopia, Comrade Valentina Tereshkova will hold talks with officials of the COPWE Organization Department and Revolutionary Ethiopia's Women's Association on ways of strengthening relations and cooperation between the two countries' women's organizations. Comrade Tereshkova will also visit different places in the country.

Talks With Officials

EA282016 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Comrade Legese Asfaw, Provisional Military Administrative Council Standing Committee member and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Executive Committee member, today held talks with Comrade Valentina Tereshkova, CPSU Central Committee member, USSR Supreme Soviet member and chairwoman of the Committee of Soviet Women.

Speaking to Cormade Tereshkova, Comrade Legese said relations and cooperation between the Soviet Union and socialist Ethiopia are developing, adding that friendship between the peoples of the two countries also is being strengthened.

Comrade Tereshkova said she has learned about the development stage of the Ethiopian revolution from what she has seen and from the briefings she received. She also expressed her great pleasure at the reception accorded her since the beginning of her visit to socialist Ethiopia. Meanwhile, Comrade Tereshkova was briefed on the activities of the Soviet-Ethiopian Friendship Committee and the Ethiopian Solidarity and Peace Committee's activities and aims. The briefings were made by Comrade Yusuf Ahmed, minister of communications and transport, COPWE Central Committee member and chairman of the Soviet-Ethiopian Friendship Committee, and Comrade Tibebu Shiferaw, secretary general of the Ethiopian Solidarity and Peace Committee.

SOMALIA

PRC HEALTH MINISTRY DELEGATION DEPARTS 25 DEC

EA262116 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Text] PRC Vice Minister of Public Health Wang Wei and his delegation left for home yesterday after a 2-week stay in the Somalia Democratic Republic [SDR].

While in the SDR, the PRC vice minister of public health and his delegation toured several Chinese-Somalia financed projects and held high level talks on bilateral ties and cooperation with senior SDR officials. The PRC delegation was seen off at the airport by SDR Deputy Health Minister Challe Ahmad Farah Issa Gashan and other senior officials from the SDR Health Ministry.

AGENCY DENIES REPORTS ON REFUGEES RETURN

EA282030 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] The National Refugee Agency today refuted reports being spread by the Abyssinians, which have been quoted by international news agencies, that some of the refugees in camps inside Somalia are returning to areas under Abyssinian control.

The chairman of the National Refugee Agency, Challe Abdi Muhammad Taraq, told the Somali national news agency and Radio Mogadishu reporters that the Abyssinian regime has always spread, concocted lies on the situation of refugees inside Somalia and the so-called refugees inside Abyssinian territory in order to get international aid for the Abyssinian people who have been affected by the prolonged drought and to help its ailing economy.

Challe Taraq added that the refugees in Somalia are in their camps and their number is increasing daily due to the oppression and massacres of the Abyssinian regime. Massacres, oppression and pillage are the order of the day in the territories of Western Somalia, Abo and other areas colonized by Abyssinia. The crisis is thus increasing in those areas. The chairman added that the problems that made the refugees flee from their home areas into the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and other neighboring countries still exist. The national refugee agency chairman said [words indistinct].

Speaking on the recent census of refugees in Somalia, he said this was conducted jointly by the UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees and international agencies based in Somalia. Challe Taraq added that an official statement will be issued by the committee concerned.

Finally, the chairman praised friendly countries, international relief agencies and the UN agencies who extended timely assistance to those forced to flee for safety from their native countries.

RADIO REPORTS DEFECTIONS TO ANTI-BARRE FRONT

EA262050 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Text] Many Somalis, among them members of the armed forces, intellectuals, young people and others, have been coming to the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalias [DFSS] bases on the battle front.

The Radio Kulmis reporter accompanying the 3rd Company of General (Gabyle) Battalion reports that many Somalis are willing to join the struggle to topple the terror regime headed by Mohamed Siad Barre in our country. Our reporter adds that nine soldiers from the 7th Brigade of the Somali Army were led by Lt Mohamed Jibril Jama and the other eight are privates.

Our reporter says these defectors from Siad Barre's regime will take part in DFSS' armed struggle to topple Siad Barre's regime. Others are also expected to do so to hasten the fall of the murderous regime headed by Siad Barre.

SIERRA LEONE

PRESIDENT STEVENS' CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO NATION

AB251217 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 25 Dec 81

[President Siaka Stevens' Christmas message to the nation, given in Freetown, date not given -- recorded]

[Text] Fellow citizens, it is with great pleasure that I extend to you a merry Christmas and a happy new year. Although Christmas is essentially a Christian festival, yet it has long had a tremendous appeal to all and sundry in this country. It is a national festival in which all sections of the community actively participate either by way of religious observance or merry-making among families, close friends and individuals alike. On certain concepts, there is a natural tendency for some to be overhappy and in the process make others all happy.

In my last Christmas Day message, I made a special appeal to demonstrators and those who participate in devil dancing to do so in such a manner that their activities will not interfere with the privacy of others. Sierra Leone has continued to play an active role in the international scene, thereby helping to create conditions that could guarantee peace within the African continent. I thank you all for your part at all times.

Those of you who have followed the world economic trend must have realized that our country, like all others, both developed and developing, is still facing a number of economic problems. It is quite true that some of these difficulties are self-imposed, for example, the creation of artificial scarcity and profiteering on rice -- our staple food -- by certain members of our community. However, there are other difficulties which are deeply rooted in the current world economic order and over which we have no control whatsoever. The ever-increasing price of oil is a case in pooint. Indeed, the importance of this commodity cannot be overemphasized. It is most vital to the operation of all types of industry and its price determines the prices of almost all commodities -- both local and imported. It is because of this thay my government has given top priority to the Bongoya hydroelectric project. The geological and final engineering studies have been completed and contracts have been signed for some of the preliminary work, the implementation of which is precedent to the main project which will commence next dry season. Furthermore, I am pleased to inform you that the exploration for oil in our off-shores is still going on; and for now, I can only say that the prospects are good.

When all these projects would have materialized, most of our economic problems will be alleviated. My government is taking active steps to improve the living conditions of the common man. A minister of state has been appointed with special responsibilities for the equitable and even distribution of rice at controlled prices. The government is also giving every encouragement to farmers by paying prices of produce that compare favorably with the world market prices. I call upon all producers and agents to defeat the many attempts to move produce from Sierra Leone illegally, thereby depriving the country of much-needed foreign exchange. Let me also warn that stringent security measures will be taken by the government to ensure that those who indulge in smuggling will be prosecuted. A breakdown of producer prices for cocoa, coffee, rice, palm kernel, ginger and benni-seed will be announced very shortly.

On the forthcoming general elections, I have little to say now because, in the recent past we have been hearing so much about this.. Let it suffice that this time, the electorate will be allowed a wider choice and be given the opportunity to elect those you want to represent you. There should therefore be no reason for trouble making. My government will not hesitate to deal firmly with those who attempt to disrupt the peace.

All has not been well with our internal finances which at Christmas time are being investigated by the proper authorities and I am not going to say much about this. But I would like to assure you that government will shortly be getting to the bottom of these matters because these have been calculated attempts on the country -- both internally and externally.

From all that I have said you can see that the situation in the country may not [words indistinct] just now but there are abundant resources and I venture to predict that eventually we shall overcome.

On that note, I want to wish you a merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous new year.

TOGO

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH ERITREAN FRONT DELEGATION

EA272308 (Clandestine) Voice of Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1600 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] The Tologese Government has expressed its support for the independence struggle of the Eritrean people. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] delegation currently visiting West Africa and led by Comrades Nasir Kurbi and Naizgu Kiflu arrived in Lome, Togo on 22 December for talks with Togolese officials.

On 22 December, our delegation met the Togolese leader, President Eyadema. Members of the delegation presented a message to President Eyadema from EPLF Secretary General Comrade Romadan Muhammad Nur concerning the forthcoming Dergue sixth-round offensive in Eritrea.

During his talks with the EPLF delegation, Togolese President Eyadema said: We do not receive you in Togo as visitors; feel at home for Togo is your country. We have been supporting your just struggle since the time of Haile Selassie and confirm our support for your right to self-determination. He said it is his great hope that the Eritrean people will be triumphant in their struggle and expressed his support for the just struggle of the Eritrean people.

BRIEFS

FRG FINANCIAL COOPERATION -- A financial cooperation agreement was signed in Lome this morning at the headquarters of the West African Development Bank between the Council of Ministers of the West African Monetary Union and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. According to the agreement, the FRG Government will make it possible for the West German development company to increase its share in the capital of the West African Monetary Union by 500 million CFA francs. [Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 21 Dec 81 AB]

ANGOLA

ANGOP COMMENTARY LAUDS LIBYAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AB241741 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1300 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Commentary by ANGOP journalist Jose Chimuco]

[Text] Luanda, 24 Dec (ANGOP) -- Thirty years have elapsed since the proclamation of Libya's independence. It was on 24 December 1951, after World War II, that the United Nations decided to grant independence to the three colonies under Italian rule (Tripolitanis, Fezzan and Cyrenaica), federated into the Kingdom of Libya with Idriss I as king.

The monarchy was brought down by the Al-Fatih Revolution begun in Sebha (about 900 kms south of Tripoli) on 1 September 1969, under the leadership of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. On 5 March 1977, the Republic of Libya became the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The celebration of this anniversary is, for the Libyan people and the Afro-Arab community in general, of special historical significance since it is taking place specifically when the African and Arab people are mobilizing their forces against growing U.S. attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of independent states.

At the same time, this date helps to strengthen and to consolidate the victories scored by the Libyan people in the social and economic fields in its 30 years of existence as an Arab state with an area of 1,759,540 sq km and a population of barely 3 million.

The Portuguese newspaper, O DIARIO, recently painted the following picture of Libya: Illiteracy was stamped out in a dozen years; the public health service has a network of modern hospitals and the accelerated training of doctors and nurses is free, like all education; house rent has been abolished and it is easy to own a house, interest has been abolished and all means of production are owned by the people. No citizen in Libya can own a factory. Private business, properly speaking, except for handicrafts, is going to come to an end....

To what is this miracle due? What has made Libya a reality entirely different from the context of Arab countries?

The secret lies in the fact that, as O DIARIO pointed out, Libya practices Islamic asceticism, one of the instruments of the revolutionary change of the society.

Furthermore, in Libya, oil is considered a transitory wealth assigned a very practical function: to serve as an impetus to ensure the economic and cultural development of the country in the shortest possible time. In Libya, the feudal society was not strengthened by the discovery of the black gold as in other oil-producing countries where along with the apparent super-development there is still hunger and poverty.

The aim of Libya's economic policy is to make oil a means of achieving rapid industrialization and agricultural development in order to become economically independent of foreign countries. While most of the oil-producing Arab countries use their oil revenues to eliminate the circulatory system of monopolistic capitalism, Libya uses its financial resources to develop the country and gives considerable aid to the national liberation movements in Africa and the Arab world.

The great strides made by the Libyan people in barely 10 years of independence, thanks to its firm national independence policy, caused it to gain many outside enemies who want to overthrow the Libyan revolution at all costs.

This is why the United States of America today considers Libya its biggest enemy in the Arab world. For the White House, one of the Jamahiriyah's major sins is its open aid policy to the national liberation movements, intransigent safeguarding of a genuine and effective independence and of great significance to Afro-Arab unity.

The increasing pressure and threats by the United States against the Libyan state can thus be easily understood. The recent shooting down of the Libyan warplanes by the U.S. Air Force, the threats of boycott of Libyan oil by U.S. multinationals and the threats to evacuate all American residents in Libya are aimed at hampering the independent progress of the Libyan people who define imperialism, Zionism and apartheid as the number one enemies of people who love peace and progress. The United States, in a clear affront to Libya, in intensifying its efforts to isolate that Mediterranean state. Under the false pretext of Libyan intervention in Chad, the authorities in Washington are increasing their dilatory tactics against Libya. To this end, they use some of the states in the region, as the case with Egypt and Sudan, where the White House finds its greatest supports in the Arab world.

The fact that Libya is celebrating its 30th independence anniversary at a particularly difficult period for the Libyan revolution provides an occasion for the Libyan people to close ranks around Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, its indisputable leader, in order to neutralize all imperialist attempts to destabilize the country.

MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO MEMBER RETURNS FROM MOSCOW, SOFIA

EA282020 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Council of Ministers communique issued 28 December]

[Text] Sergio Vieira, member of the Frelimo Central Committee, was received on 22 December in Sofia by Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP]. Sergio Vieira presented a message from the Frelimo Central Committee to the BCP Central Committee and another message from the Frelimo president to the BCP secretary general.

Sergio Vieira, who has already returned to Maputo, was also in Moscow where he held talks with Boris Ponomarev, CPSU Politburo candidate member, who was accompanied by other high-ranking officials of the [word indistinct]. In Moscow, Sergio Vieira also conveyed a message from the Frelimo Central Committee to the CPSU Central Committee.

NAMIBIA

VOICE OF NAMIBIA REPORTS MILITARY SUCCESSES

EA241230 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 23 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Now we are bringing you the 1981 retrospective of the successes which our valiant fighters of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia [PLAN] has scored against the terrorist occupationist troops of racist South Africa in Namibia. We must with pride say that, despite sophisticated armament in the hands of the fascists in Pretoria, PLAN forces inflicted heavy casualties both in men and material on the occupationist enemy troops. They have expanded and increased their military operations throughout the length and breadth of the country, particularly in the northwestern, northern, north eastern and north central regions of Namibia.

During the course of the year, 1981, our PLAN forces killed 900 racist South African soldiers and mercenaries, as well as wounding more than 1,553.